

FACE & SPIRIT



The Bylaws of the World Bible School Board of Directors introduce the WBS president's role as follows:

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation. The President shall take a leading role in developing, with the Board, the vision, direction and strategic plan of World Bible School in consultation with the Management Team. The President shall serve as the "face" and "spirit" of World Bible School to the world. The President shall be responsible to the Board of Directors to represent World Bible School's ministry to the general public, to churches of Christ, and to ministry groups, institutions and individuals.

"Face" and "spirit" are key terms. "Face" stands for serving as the main representative of WBS to constituents and the wider world. "Spirit" stands for spiritual and visionary leadership. It has been my privilege to serve in these ways as president since 2006. As announced in the

January *Action!*, I plan to retire from the role—but not from promoting and assisting WBS—this year, 2021, in which I turn 70. This move has long been anticipated, aimed at passing the baton safely, that is, while both runners are enjoying good health and WBS is making great progress.

My successor in the role, Brian Davis, has been prepared all his life and specifically his last six years as Executive Vice President for WBS in Cedar Park. Selection and appointment are duties of the Board. Through a thorough and rigorous process, the Board concurred that Brian was fully qualified. In this issue, I continue to introduce Brian as the incoming "face" and "spirit" of WBS, and Brian introduces Tim Yaeger. These selections speak well of WBS' continued impact for the church and world evangelism. Because our true leader is Jesus, we face the future with a spirit of courage and confidence.



WBS' NEXT FACE & SPIRIT: BRIAN DAVIS

BY JOHN REESE CEDAR PARK, TEXAS



“Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come!” Since our Lord transcends all time, He knows each generation intimately and how to prepare the needed leadership. Long ago, He set in place the means for communicating the Good News worldwide. He gifted Jimmie Lovell with vision and energy to launch World Bible School (named in 1973). He supplied Reuel Lemmons and Tex

Williams as Jimmie’s successors. He has raised up leaders for this present age of unparalleled opportunity and daunting challenges.

Brian Davis, the next WBS president—beginning January 1, 2022—was being prepared as a child given to godly parents, Rex and Barbara. Rex led Boyd-Buchanan Christian school in Chattanooga TN, modeling leadership, problem-solving and progress for 45 years. He also introduced Brian as a teen to WBS when they taught by postal correspondence together.

At David Lipscomb University (1984-1989), Joe Gray fueled Brian’s evangelistic fervor and effectiveness with campaigns to New Zealand, Jamaica, England, Kenya and West Africa. Brian also served the Nashville Inner City Ministry. After graduating in Bible, Brian established the Chattanooga Inner City Outreach and served as its director (1990-1997).

In 1997, Brian married Sondra Boyd. Sondra had attended York

College (1983-1985). While there, Sondra campaigned with Tom Schultz in Austria, and while studying at A.C.U. (1985-1988) interned with mission teams in East Africa and surveyed West Africa. She studied French in Quebec, Canada (1994-1995), then joined a mission team in Benin (1995-1998).

Serving as missionaries of Hillcrest church of Christ in Abilene, they moved from Benin to Cape Town, South Africa (1998-2005), to serve French-speaking refugees, mainly Congolese, which led also



The Davis family with Lazarus Munetsi, GMC’s follow up coordinator for WBS in South Africa

to work with inner city gangs. Congo especially spills its refugees into the Northwest Province of Zambia, leading Hillcrest to ask Brian to begin a new refugee work there (2005-2012). The regional ruler, Chief Mumena, encouraged them to plant churches of Christ among the Kaonde tribe.

continued on p5

ENTRUST...

BY BRIAN DAVIS CEDAR PARK, TEXAS

The Apostle Paul mentored Timothy in order to make sure of the inspired command:

...and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also (2 Timothy 2:2).

Tim Yaeger came to World Bible School in 2018 when we were needing leadership to craft our on-line Bible Study tools. Since then, Tim has been the leading vision on how to build cutting edge, digital experiences that help move WBS into the future. Tools such as our new .org site and its related apps and the Mathetis social media network have all come to fruition by Tim’s leadership.

One of the most important areas of leadership that Tim excels at is in recruiting a team of talented individuals who are passionate about sharing Jesus. Another is Tim’s ability to listen and learn how new tools need to integrate with and compliment traditional WBS tools that have been shining the light of Jesus to our world since 1973. Tim’s biblical maturity combined with



The Yaeger family (from left): Noah, Maria, Sara, Gabriel, Julia, Luke, Katie, Tim

ministry and people skills have enabled him to bridge the gap from what WBS has always been to what God is calling WBS to do in the future.

As an important part of the WBS leadership team going forward, Tim will be instrumental in integrating all of WBS tools with cutting-edge technologies that will give WBS a greater reach into the world of those still needing to know Jesus.

TAKES ON TRANSITION

Joyce Allison: **Thank you for your years of service. What a joy to share the lessons with many prisoners this past year, right here in Texas, and to receive many thank-yous from them for the Bible studies. We’ve seen many changed hearts, and for that we are so thankful.**

Phillip Slate: **John and Beth, I think Jimmie Lovell would be proud of what you have done.... You two have responded to our changing world and opened up new vistas of teaching. So, I send you my hearty thanks for your efforts. On one of my visits to Kenya, a former student said to me, “Dr. Slate, when you get back, tell the people who do WBS to keep up their good**

continued on p5

Estate Planning: A Good Steward's Checklist for Getting Started

Estate planning isn't just for the very wealthy. Your estate includes everything you own, and it can be any size, which is why it is worth taking time to plan for what happens to it.

Estate planning is the process of designating who will receive your assets and handle your responsibilities after your death or incapacitation. One fundamental goal is to ensure that heirs and other beneficiaries receive assets in a way that minimizes estate tax, gift tax, income tax and other taxes.

Some of you will recognize the above excerpt of our WBS Estate Planning material. For a Christian, one's estate assumes both greater meaning and greater worth. God would have us be good stewards of how He has blessed us, whether with little or much. So Christians

can view estate planning as just a natural part of one's faith, as good stewardship. Furthermore, many want to use at least a portion of their estate to make a difference in the world even after they have passed on. That can only happen through "estate planning".

To recognize those who understand the impact

of an estate gift, WBS has established Sowing a Legacy Partners. "Sowing a Legacy" combines the biblical principle of spreading the Good News of Jesus with the concept of high-value financial support for many years to come. As a Sowing a Legacy Partner, you'll receive modest recognition (unless you request otherwise) that will encourage others, as well as special communications about WBS.



For more information, contact Rick and Mary Shur:

rick@worldbibleschool.net
615-916-0420

mary@worldbibleschool.net
270-535-4901



TWO MAJOR EVENTS THIS FALL!

It's always exciting when WBS can have a wonderful dinner together as a family. These times serve for great fellowship with each other, allow updates on outreach through WBS and say a "Thank you!" to all our study helpers, coordinators, and partners in this ministry.

This fall two dinners are scheduled, one in Nashville and one in Austin. Our theme this year will be: "The Cure: True Healing for the World." We hope you'll be able to join us in person in Nashville on October 7th, at the Sonesta Nashville Airport Hotel (formerly Marriott). The Austin benefit dinner will take place

on November 9th, at the Westside church of Christ in Round Rock, TX. This Austin event will be live streamed as well, so people are welcome to join us online. These dinners will also serve as a great time of remembering the contribution of WBS' outgoing president, John Reese and his wife, Beth. Both will be in attendance to allow us to honor them for their years of service to WBS. Contact us for information on reserving your place at either of these great events: rsvp@worldbibleschool.net

Pat Brown is always available to talk to friends of WBS—individuals and churches. Contact him at pat@worldbibleschool.net.

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REMEMBERING CONRAD TSIGA

Editor's Note: Following is the video transcript prepared by John Reese for Conrad's funeral in July.

Beth and I want to express our love for the Tsiga family, whom we have known and worked with for so long.

My earliest memories of Conrad and Helen go back to 1974. Conrad was supported as a local preacher in Kwe Kwe, Zimbabwe, and his supporting congregation in Starkville MS had asked us to visit him and the family. Since that time, we have been friends and co-workers. We have watched the Tsiga family grow, and they have watched our children grow up.

Our most intense partnership has been since 1985 when we Reeses began on a full-time basis to use World Bible School for evangelism. In a sense, Conrad was the father of WBS in Zimbabwe, being the first evangelist there

to focus fully on WBS student recruiting and follow up. We campaigned together in countless locations. We preached together. Our families sang and prayed together. Literally millions of students in Zimbabwe have enrolled for WBS studies, and untold numbers have been baptized into Christ and nurtured in Christ.

Conrad's wide smile will greet many of the redeemed in their heavenly Home together with the Lord. He shared the hope of the resurrection with many, and now he is realizing that hope. Like Paul, Conrad could say, "My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better."

(right)
**Conrad Tsiga
1940-2021**

(below)
**Reese
campaigners
singing with
Helen and
Conrad in
Zimbabwe.**



Theo's Love

He just keeps surprising us. For the sake of anonymity, we'll call him Theo (short for Theophilus, Lover of God). Theo and his wife were married for over 70 years. They were deeply committed to the Lord, to each other and to the Lord's church. They believed in World Bible School and were extraordinarily generous. With yet another donation, Theo commented, "This gift is not sending just a missionary or two, it is sending many thousands of missionaries"—referring to the volunteer

teachers and follow up workers that form the WBS team worldwide.

When his wife passed into eternity, Theo leaned down and gave her a final kiss, saying, "I'll see you later." He told family and friends, "She is with the Lord now. This is what she lived her whole life for." That firm faith carries Theo forward. Now approaching 100, his giving is as generous as ever. With his most recent gift, he explained, "World Bible School is doing lots of good, touching so many. This is the Lord's money anyway; He lets us use it for

a little while. It needs to reach lost souls. There are so many of them, all around us. WBS is helping so many to reach Heaven. I just want to be part of it." We are deeply moved by gratitude for Theo, his dear wife, and you who are like them. But our thanks here hardly compares to the gratitude to be experienced there, from those helped into Heaven. Greatest of all will be the Savior's welcome: "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your Master."

from p3 Takes on Transition

work because WBS contacts are our major entry path into new territory." God alone knows how to measure the good done through WBS. What a wonderful work!... I met Brian Davis when he was a much younger man. I will be lifting him up to our Father as

he undertakes his part of the ongoing enterprise called World Bible School.

Dick Ady: Dear John, I thank God for you and for your leadership in WBS since Tex Williams. You have done an outstanding job in every way and have demonstrated a spirit of brotherly love and Christian fellowship toward me and other

members of the WEI leadership team. It has been, and it will continue to be, a genuine pleasure to join hands with you as fellow-servants in the kingdom of God. May God bless you and Brian Davis as you prepare to pass the baton to him January 1, 2022.

from p2 Brian Davis

When the church planting work matured, Hillcrest brought the Davis family to Abilene for Brian to lead missions and local evangelism (2012-2015). His methods included WBS' latest tools. As president of WBS, I asked the Hillcrest elders, "Could Hillcrest share Brian and Sondra with WBS?" They agreed that Brian's skill in missions strategy should serve the brotherhood and world evangelism. They invested generously to make the plan work, Brian leading their missions

planning, training and campaigns, including regular WBS campaigns to Northwest Zambia and Zimbabwe. Sondra coordinated travel arrangements. Brian became EVP for WBS in Cedar Park from 2015 and Sondra became Administrative Assistant from 2017. Their sons Noah (21) and Bryson (18) are enrolled in Freed-Hardeman University. The Lord began a great work in the Davis family, and He will bring it to completion for His own glory.



Action!

EDITOR: JOHN REESE

Action! (ISSN 8750-1333) USPS 004380 IS PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY THE NON-PROFIT MINISTRY OF WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL. WBS IS **EVERYDAY CHRISTIANS SHARING JESUS** WITH PRINTED & DIGITAL BIBLE LESSONS AND TOOLS.

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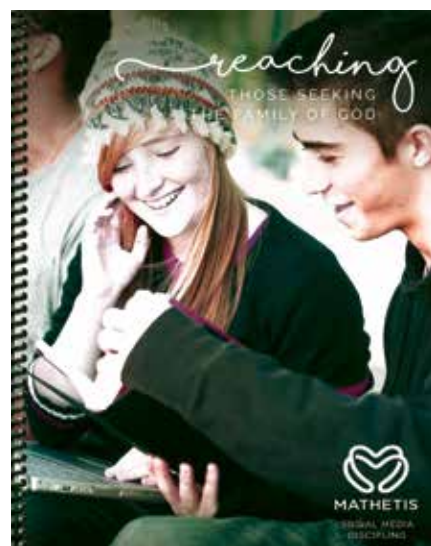
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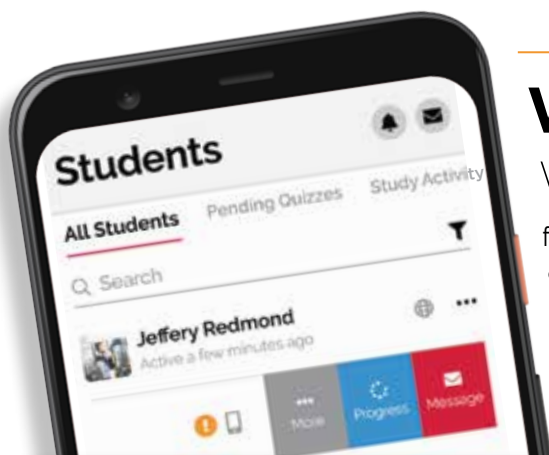
BY **WILLIAM BUSH** SPRINGFIELD, TENNESSEE

Now's a great time to join Mathetis! **Mathetis is a social network for studying interactive Bible courses together with your friends online.** We've made several additions to Mathetis' platform and course options to enhance your experience and Bible study. For instance, we've released the latest Mathetis Original course, *Seeking the Family of God*, in tandem with its interactive Bible class curriculum, *Reaching Those Seeking the Family of God*. This new Mathetis course and Bible class curriculum discuss questions like: Am I in Christ? Where do I belong? Why are there so many different Christian religions? How do I pray? What is worship? What if there is no New Testament church near me? Coupling Mathetis' Reaching Series curriculum with Mathetis' social network creates an innovative environment to engage your students in the classroom and throughout the week.

We've added new authors and courses to Mathetis, including: Ripple of Light's *Good Grief and Twisted Scripture*; Apologetics Press' *Did God Really Create the Earth?*; and Evangelism University's *The Gospel: Good News for a Change*. Check in often to see announcements for more courses coming soon. We've further enhanced our social network platform, including a **redesigned website** and an **app user interface**. Based on user feedback, we've added **notifications** for better communication between users within the courses, **security** features to maintain a safe social environment, and other features.



Download Mathetis in the App Store or on Google Play or by registering online at mathetis.org. To learn more about the Reaching Series curriculum or to place an order, visit mathetis.org/reaching-series. If you have any questions, feel free to email us at help@mathetis.org.



WBS APP SNEAK PEAK

WBS Lite has been installed by thousands of students to take World Bible School courses and to gain free access to the digital WBS Study Bible. WBS Lite is intended for those who cannot connect to the internet frequently. For those who are "always on" we are gearing up to launch the WBS App. This will maximize our ability to reach more digitally connected students. Also, it will revolutionize teaching online for those who prefer using Apple and Android mobile devices. The screen shot at left gives you a glimpse of what is to come for study helpers who choose to use the WBS App to teach the Gospel. Look for more announcements later this year.

The News in Pictures

WBS representatives are traveling again. Ron Pottberg and Brian Davis visited Ghana for PREP (see page 7). John and Beth Reese worked on lesson delivery solutions in Zimbabwe. Don Boyd trained leaders in Zambia. The Brian Davis family campaigned in Zambia and made strategic visits in South Africa. Phil and Elaine Palmer went to East Africa for student recruiting seminars. Bill Colwell and Richard Patton showed WBS tools to U.S. congregations. Advancement folks also visited. More examples could be given. WBS receives far more worldwide news and conversion stories than can fit into *Action!* These glimpses represent many other recent reports.



Ghana PREP Provides Answers



Africa remains amazingly receptive to the Bible and its message. While the use of smart phones and internet is opening new doors, it remains true that most Africans depend on paper for learning. Postal systems, however, are proving problematic. The nation of Ghana is providing solutions. Augustine Tawiah was brought to Christ as a teen through

World Bible School. He is now a leading educationalist and member of parliament in Ghana. PREP (Partners in Religious Education Project) is his brainchild. PREP pre-positions WBS courses in-country, in this case at the WBS Service Center in Accra, Ghana. This allows rapid and reliable delivery of courses to WBS students in Ghanaian high schools. American Christians who contribute the lessons receive scanned answers from their students and trigger the next course to be delivered (usually by local couriers).

Brian Davis and Ron Pottberg recently visited with Ghanaian



Brian Davis promotes PREP at a high school in Ghana.

leaders, including the elders of the Nsawam Road church of Christ, to build on the great teamwork WBS enjoys in Ghana and to enhance operational details. The results are so encouraging that PREP is expanding from Accra to other Ghanaian locations. The Concord Road church of Christ in Tennessee leads this expansion. Gratefully, we are seeing retention rates of students through the entire Master series of around 60%. In correspondence teaching, high retention rates lead to greater numbers requesting baptism. As we learn how to succeed using pre-positioned courses, new methods of delivery can be developed in other countries as well. With your prayers, we are looking forward to great harvests!

Monday John Akpakpan

For many, the 20th century's "beloved physician" was Dr. Henry Farrar. If you had asked Henry about who, after C.A.O. Essien, personified the "face and spirit" of Nigerian evangelism, he might have replied, "my dear friend, Monday John." In 2006, Henry wrote for *Action!*,



Monday John and Narissa

Grace and I went to Nigeria in 1964. Monday John Akpakpan, age 19, came from his tiny village to help us. His family had accepted Christ from early missionary preaching. His smile and laugh were real and ever present. The fruit of the Spirit literally radiated from Monday. We preached together, and Monday John was greatly, but gently, persuasive! ... To this day, Monday John travels all over Nigeria [and] follows up with World Bible School students. Having preached for 61 years and been a doctor for 51 years I have never

known a man of God like Monday John.

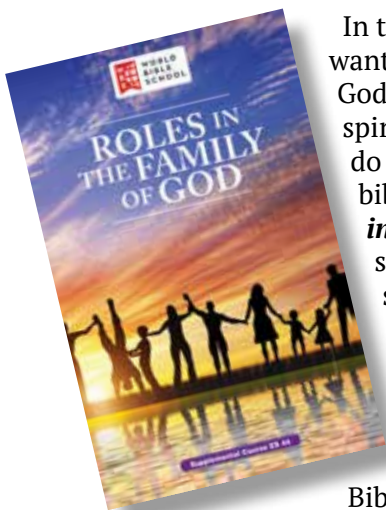
To this day, in his mid-seventies, Monday John continues his amazing pace. His monthly reports are packed with activities: WBS enrollments and follow up seminars, congregational lessons, Gospel meetings, youth rallies, leadership seminars, lectureships, baptisms, counseling and more.

In a recent report, Monday John wrote, "Our responsibility is to preach the Word, be instant in season and out of season. I thank all of you who are praying for me and helping me not to be lazy in spreading the Word of God." We are the ones who need prayers and help, having much to learn about the meaning of 2 Timothy 2:6, "It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops."



INTRODUCING A NEW SUPPLEMENT: ***Roles in the Family of God***

World Bible School lays a foundation of faith through seven Master Series courses that focus on Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God. They share the Good News that Jesus has entered death and defeated it, giving us new and enduring life. The Master Series concludes by exploring the new life through in-depth studies of Ephesians. Having supplied a healthy context, WBS uses Supplements to address specific growth needs.



In their daily walk, disciples want to learn where they fit in God's plan for families and for His spiritual family, the church. How do we approach much-needed biblical topics—such as ***Roles in the Family of God***—that social pressures have made sensitive? By letting the Bible have its say, then letting students come to their own conclusions. One helpful way to let the Bible speak is the survey method. This new

Bible course, therefore, begins in

Genesis and visits each consecutive age, paying attention to its specifics and its trends. Special attention is paid to God's sovereign choices as compared with human and cultural choices.

After a fair and engaging survey, key passages of the New Testament are presented with little or no leading commentary. Students should decide for themselves on the meaning and application of each passage, not on a preconceived or contrived basis, but based on the context and what they have learned about God's character and choices through the Bible. After the course, in the endnotes, students may compare their own conclusions with observations related to the survey. For some, the topic of roles may be controversial. But the Bible's tone is consistent, clear and reassuring. This course seeks to honor the Bible's tone and scope, aiming to let the Bible interpret itself.

Like other WBS Supplements, this timely course has 13 lessons, suited to a quarterly class or small group Bible study. It can also be used for correspondence students. As always, an amazingly low price—80 cents per booklet (86 pages)—accompanies excellent content and an attractive look. ***This new course should be available to order after October 15.*** After that date, you can order a free sample course or free samples for your leadership by calling 877-393-0211. To purchase, call



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POSTMASTER:

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P.O. Box 2169
Cedar Park, Texas 78630

or go to worldbibleschool.net/shop or email orders@worldbibleschool.net. Also recently printed is another new Supplement, ***The Mystery of Music***. The third in the Covenants Series, it will be described, Lord willing, in the November ***Action!*** and should also ***be available to order after October 15.***



UPCOMING...

25 “The LORD make His face to shine upon you.”

Numbers 6

SHINING FACE