



ACTION!

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...to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ... Ephesians 4:12-13 ESV



Building with Strong Bricks

Brian Rex Davis

CEDAR PARK, TEXAS
WBS ACTION! EDITOR AND PRESIDENT

One of the great challenges we face as a brotherhood is whether or not our next generation will choose—of their own free will—to be faithful to Jesus and the pursuit of New Testament Christianity. This issue of ACTION! Magazine highlights three World Bible School tools that can make a difference.

1. **Bible Curriculum** was developed to answer the most often asked Bible questions from our WBS Students. However, they have been formatted in 13-week lesson booklets. These booklets are ideally suited for a congregation's quarterly Bible curriculum schedule. As an elder, I can attest to the powerful impact these courses have on the maturity of a congregation. They are timely, biblical, and always focused on Jesus. **Learn more on page 4.**

2. **Printed Lessons** – International postal systems are having a difficult time in a number of countries where traditionally we have had great Student recruitment. Some countries are just not recovering well after COVID disrupted postal services globally. WBS is not only keenly aware of this, but we have been working feverishly behind the scenes to develop dependable and reproducible alternative correspondence systems

for countries and churches who need a new way forward for effective evangelistic experiences. **Learn more on page 5.**

3. **Mathetis** – Each culture and every generation chooses how it likes to communicate. For those of us raised with letters, phones, and e-mail, communication was usually one on one. With smart phones and social media, our next generation often communicates in small groups. Mathetis is a powerful and safe Bible study tool that allows any generation to share Jesus within a group discussion. “Digging Deeper” tools are provided to help teach the principles of mature discipleship to Jesus. **Learn more on page 9-10.**

Modern and effective evangelism tools need serious funding. So many of you have given sacrificially to make these tools possible. In a more difficult economic environment, these sacrifices are truly amazing. Thank you for making WBS a priority in your giving. My wife and I, in our recent travels, have been blessed to see the thousands of faces whose lives have been changed by your sacrifice. You are heroes of the faith! **Learn more on page 6.**





Brother Gift lives in a township in South Africa with no electricity. In January, he enrolled 800 Printed Lesson Students and organized a Gospel meeting in 90 degree weather for 200 denominational church leaders to consider the beauty of New Testament Christianity. Brother Gift uses his gifts for the Lord! Will you do the same?



4,000 WBS Study Bibles Arrive Safely in South Sudan.

Given by generous donations last year, our WBS Study Edition Bibles made it over land and sea to arrive in the country of South Sudan. Several borders had to be crossed which makes their arrival—without the loss of a single Bible—so amazing. Several elders of the churches of Christ who have been working together to establish the Lord’s church in South Sudan are planning to travel there and establish how these Bibles will be distributed and utilized for the expansion of the Kingdom of Christ.



In 2022, one of our Indian WBS representatives, **Anil Kumar**, enrolled 500 English-speaking Indian Students. Anil’s team in India has also translated the “Master Series” into Telugu, which led to 1,800 Telugu WBS Students who were taught by a group of Telegu Study Helpers.



Sunset church of Christ hosted a dinner for World Bible School in Lubbock, Texas. Over 100 people attended as the elders of this congregation challenged their members to renew their evangelistic efforts using WBS tools. Matt Glawe, their minister of evangelism and teacher at Sunset International Bible Institute, organized in-depth training after the dinner. Joe Brock, long-time WBS teacher, encouraged those in attendance to never give up on the work of the Great Commission.



Kampande church of Christ, Zambia



Traditional Zambian construction takes place with baked, clay bricks. Pictured above is the cornerstone brick of a church plant in Zambia where the Davis family served as missionaries.

Often, these bricks would be soft and brittle. Modern concrete bricks are far stronger. **For the Christian building a spiritual “house” how do we build with the strongest bricks possible?**

This issue of ACTION! Magazine attempts to provide some answers to this question.



Bible Curriculum: Christianity Must Be Taught

Christianity must be taught for someone to become a Christian. One is not “born” into Christianity; one must be “born again” into Christ. Jesus, himself, stated it this way in His Great Commission:

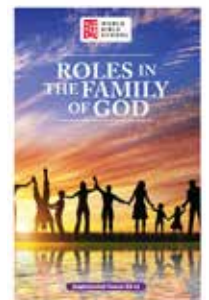
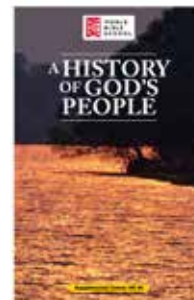
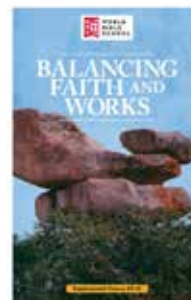
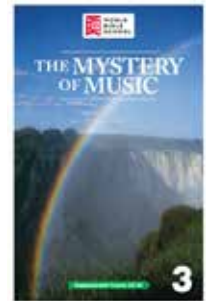
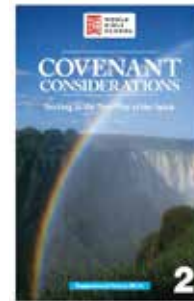
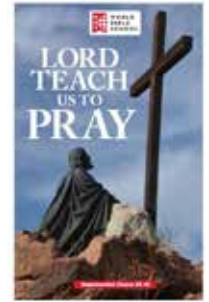
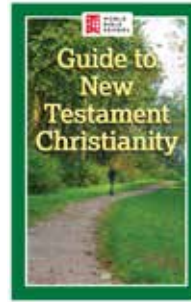
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.** (Matthew 28:19-20, ESV)

Teaching people to observe all that Jesus commands is a lifetime challenge. WBS has had decades of experience with teaching people the Gospel. In recent years, WBS has been able to publish advanced courses that help Christians to observe all that Jesus wants us to observe in New Testament Christianity.

*TEACHING PEOPLE TO OBSERVE
ALL THAT JESUS COMMANDS IS A
LIFETIME CHALLENGE.*

We call these courses our “Bible Curriculum” which provide individuals and churches with affordable and trustworthy Bible study curriculum written in convenient 13-week (quarterly) courses.

WBS Bible Curriculum courses provide deep and insightful studies into great Biblical truths. Whether exploring Old or New Testament passages, each study is rooted in the perspective Jesus brings to the Word.



Order now at worldbibleschool.net/biblecurriculum



Ocean Bridge: A Solution for Postal Correspondence

BY **TIM YAEGER**
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

The Prattville church of Christ in Alabama began sending WBS Introduction courses to five countries in April 2022. One year after sending 5,000 Intros through international mail, they have yet to receive back one completed Introduction course.

As you may expect, this discouraged the Elders, Study Helpers, and the WBS Coordinators, Kent Dobbs and Mike Manley. We have heard this story from others. Perhaps you have been experiencing long delays. Maybe you have been feeling the pinch of increasing shipping costs. In some countries, postal systems are struggling to recover in a post-COVID world. These problems are outside the control of WBS.

However, with enormous challenges, God provides bigger opportunities. WBS has been blessed to print our courses in Ghana, Zimbabwe, and Nigeria, with more coming. Having local inventory, WBS can now digitally scan and send Student answer sheets to a congregation. The congregation can print, grade, and scan the graded sheets back

to WBS. Then, the next course will be delivered to the Student by WBS with the graded sheet, thus eliminating postal mail.

The Prattville church of Christ started this new method in January 2023. After setting up their scanning equipment, they have graded 5,800 introductions and 2,000 subsequent courses. **Wow, from zero to 7,800 graded courses and 30 baptism requests!** Kent now calls excited about how much grading the Study Helpers are doing and he wants to see more congregations involved.



Tim Yaeger sets up Ocean Bridge at the Prattville church of Christ.

Do you want to share in this exciting new method? Your congregation will instantly benefit from a **100%**

enrollment rate receiving completed Intros immediately. You will experience **up to 80% retention** in some areas because WBS recruiters work with schools, prisons, and local congregations. Over the course of your WBS program, a postal Student would cost at least \$21 to complete the Master Series, but in this new method, it will only cost \$10.

So, what is Ocean Bridge? Ocean Bridge is the culmination of new processes and technology to increase the volume, speed and retention of international Printed Lesson Students. Together we will bridge oceans, reduce the need for postal systems and improve the evangelism experience for you and your Students.

If you want to energize your Study Helpers and Coordinators by starting your own Printed Lessons program with Ocean Bridge, you can reach out to Tim Yaeger or Sherri Hays. **Email us at help@worldbibleschool.net or call (800) 311-2006.** We are here to help you ever step of the way.

RELATIONSHIPS & TECHNOLOGY COMBINE TO PROVIDE OUR STUDY HELPERS WITH SOLUTIONS.

Learn more at worldbibleschool.net/oceanbridge

Join our \$1.5 Million Match and Challenge!

We have already had several donors commit to give a total of \$1.5 million dollars to our match and challenge. Every dollar you give will double our efforts to accomplish these incredible goals for sharing Jesus.



Printed Lessons

Due to the collapse of several international postal systems after COVID, we are developing solutions to continue spreading the Gospel with Printed Lessons using our new program, Ocean Bridge (see page 5). **We are seeking 5 gifts of \$100,000 each.**



Online Lessons

We have partnered with Sunset International Bible Institute to provide WBS Online Lesson Students with advanced Bible studies. In addition, we are adding our current set of WBS Bible Curriculum online. **We are seeking 5 gifts of \$10,000 each.**



Study Bible

Our incentive Bible program allows our Study Helpers to offer a FREE Bible for any Student who completes *Born of Water and Spirit*. **We are seeking 20 gifts of \$10,000 to help us send 20,000 Students a WBS NKJV Study Edition Bible.**

Any size gift can help us share Jesus with the lost. Every dollar matters!

Write "2023 Match and Challenge" in your check's memo or give online to partner in these initiatives.



Mathetis

We are currently upgrading Mathetis to provide a better study experience for our users. We have also started work on the fourth Mathetis Original course and Bible class curriculum to train Christians how to reach out to those who have fallen away. **We are seeking 6 gifts of \$50,000 each.**



Bible Curriculum

We are working on several new Bible class curriculum courses to help strengthen churches of Christ. Topics include: evangelism, the church, unity and how to study the Bible. **We are seeking 500 gifts of \$100 each.**



Connect

It takes a significant amount of funds to reach souls who are searching for the Gospel online. We spend over \$1,000 every day in online advertising to find Students. **We are seeking 400 gifts of \$1,000 each to provide online advertising for every day of 2023.**

Have you considered joining our "Sowing the Seed" gift program?

Small recurring investments into the Gospel today can yield incredible fruit over time. By selecting to give a recurring gift, your consistent support will translate into sharing the Gospel to a multitude of souls within a year.

Learn more at worldbibleschool.net/sowingtheseed

10,000,000
FOR  CHRIST

Each of these challenges will help us accomplish our goal of reaching **10,000,000 for Christ**. Help us sow the seed of the Gospel into the hearts of 10,000,000 souls by the end of 2023.

10,000,000
FOR CHRIST

6,444,376

Hearts touched as of March 31, 2023

Hearts Offered A Gospel Study

This counts more than just Student registrations, but all the ways God has enabled us to share the Gospel through WBS tools. Each number represents a soul who was presented the opportunity to study the Bible through one of our many outreach efforts.

1.58M

Printed Lessons

3.35M

Online Lessons

88K

Study Bible

1.41M

Mathetis

64% Completed



10,000,000
FOR CHRIST

Fruit from 10,000,000 for Christ

From the millions of souls we have been able to invite to study the Gospel, we have had over **1.7 million souls** respond by starting a Bible study.

987K

Printed Lessons
Student Enrollment

170K

Online Lessons
Student Registration

88K

Study Bible
Distributed

464K

Mathetis Original
Video Views

Learn more at worldbibleschool.net/10m4c

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!

Write "2023 Match and Challenge" in your check's memo or give online.

Please accept my **GIFT** of:

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other: \$ _____

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Congregation: _____

Please make my **GIFT** a:

One time gift Monthly recurring Yearly recurring

By selecting "Recurring" you become a member of our **Sowing the Seed Gift Program**. Learn how your recurring gift can impact WBS at worldbibleschool.net/sowingtheseed.

My **GIFT** is provided via:

Check, payable to "World Bible School" Credit Card

If selected "Credit Card," please fill out the following:

Card Number: _____

Expiration: ____ / ____ CVV: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT WORLDIBLESCHOOL.NET/GIVE TO GIVE ONLINE



Please make my **GIFT** a tribute:

Memorial Gift Honor Gift

This tribute is for: _____

Send acknowledgement to: _____

Address: _____

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Betty Yates
Carmon & Judee Lannom

Ran Zuber
Peggy Sullivan

Transforming Lives with Mathetis: The Power of Group Bible Studies

World Bible School's success as a ministry does not come solely from its own accord. But rather, its success comes from God working through motivated Christians who choose to use WBS tools to share Jesus.

Mathetis, a WBS tool for studying interactive Bible courses together in groups online, has continued this legacy of success using new technologies and multimedia to reach lost souls with the Gospel of Christ.



Tucson Redd, Evangelist

Thanks to generous donors, Mathetis has empowered Christians like **Brother Tucson Redd** from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to share the Gospel in places he otherwise could not have reached. With very little technical knowhow,

MATHETIS CAN AID IN DEVELOPING CHRISTIAN MATURITY AND MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS.

Brother Redd was able to create a group on Mathetis he called the "Berean Outreach Bible Study" in March 2020. He initially invited two people to join his group. Each week, Brother Redd assigned a lesson from one of our courses and required his group to watch the video and respond to each discussion question and exercise within the lesson. Then, the group would meet together on Zoom every Tuesday evening to dive into deeper study.

Today, the Berean Outreach Bible Study group has grown from two members to an average of 20-25

participants each week, with visitors and members from 22 different states as well as multiple countries. **This growth has resulted in 11 souls choosing to be baptized into Christ.** These new Christians are now being inspired to share their faith and fulfill the Great Commission as well.

Brother Redd writes, "The Mathetis courses have proven to be a very effective resource for teaching and learning. I thank God for the Holy Spirit and the use of Mathetis in the success of the Berean Outreach Bible Class."

At WBS, we are thrilled to hear about the success of the Berean Outreach Bible Study group and how Mathetis has played a significant role in the spiritual growth of its members. Their testimony shows Mathetis has the power to spark transformation in the hearts and lives of people through the study of God's Word together.



Berean Outreach Bible Study group member being baptized in Harlem, NY

"THE MATHETIS COURSES HAVE PROVEN TO BE A VERY EFFECTIVE RESOURCE FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING."
-TUCSON REDD

We pray Mathetis can inspire even more Christians like Brother Redd to take part in evangelism. Mathetis can aid in developing Christian maturity and meaningful relationships with God's family through participation within our group studies. We encourage individuals, small groups, Bible classes, youth groups, college ministry, and even adult ministries to start using Mathetis and experience the growth which comes from studying the Bible together.

Meet Brother Redd at the WBS Benefit Dinner in Searcy, Arkansas, September 11, 2023. **Call 512-345-8190 or visit worldbibleschool.net/searcy2023 to RSVP.**

CALL TO ACTION!



Scan the QR code to download Mathetis on your mobile device and start a group study.

Learn more at worldbibleschool.net/mathetis



Challenge Youth Conference (CYC) teamed up with WBS and Mathetis in Pigeon Forge. The 12,000 attendees gave \$30,000 to be split between WBS/Mathetis and World Christian Broadcast's work in North Korea. Mathetis also announced three new courses published by CYC over the weekend. Over 500 people registered on Mathetis during CYC.



Evangelism University board of directors use the "The Reaching Series" as part of their elective class curriculum to help train over 1,000 young people how to share the Gospel to their friends, local communities and the mission field.



WBS joins Lori Boyd's book signing with **Kaio Publications** during the Freed-Hardeman Lectureships. Kaio has partnered with WBS by offering 10% off *Walking to the Promised Land* which goes with Lori's new course on Mathetis.





A **WBS Campaign in Uganda** leads to the birth of a new church with many souls choosing to put on Christ in baptism. Pray for our new brothers and sisters and the growth of the Lord's church in Uganda.



Reason Zikahli, of Johannesburg, finished his WBS courses and went on to complete a Bible degree at Southern Africa Bible College. He is now planting a church in South Africa!

Timóteo Tivane, a former Pentecostal preacher, reports the growing number of Students studying WBS Portuguese courses in Beria, Mozambique. Some of these Students are also former Pentecostal preachers. Please pray for Timóteo, for the church, and for the school in Beira and the Students growing in God's Word.



Brian Davis and Machona Monyamane meet with the leaders of WBS & Gospel Chariot Missions in South Africa.



ACTION!

MAGAZINE

EDITOR: BRIAN REX DAVIS

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Mathetis Inspires our Youth to Invest in Evangelism



BY **WILLIAM BUSH**
SPRINGFIELD, TENNESSEE
CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER

Paul summed up Elijah's anxiety best in Romans 11:2-5. "Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? 'Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.' But what is God's reply to him? **'I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.'** So too **at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace.**"

There may be some today who share in Elijah's anxieties over the people of God, and rightfully so. Our young people seem to be leaving in droves as congregations across the country are closing their doors. Yet, in a world which seems to grow darker every day, let me tell you about the **"remnant"** of young people I've had the chance to meet this year.

In mid-January, over **1,000 young people** arrived in Savannah, Tennessee to attend Evangelism University. EU is an annual weekend event designed to train youth group leaders on evangelism. This year, the attendees studied from Mathetis' "The Reaching Series," during their elective classes to learn how to respond to difficult questions that come up during a Bible study.



Jerry Elder delivers a \$15,000 donation from CYC to William Bush

Let me also tell you about the **12,000 souls** who attended the Challenge Youth Conference in Dallas, Texas and Pigeon Forge, Tennessee and gave \$15,000 to further the work of Mathetis. Over 500 attendees registered on Mathetis during the weekend event.

Our young people see the importance of evangelism. Whether they are studying to share their faith with others, using their financial blessings spread the Gospel or actively using tools like Mathetis to grow the Kingdom of God, they see the importance of telling the world about Jesus.

This issue of ACTION! highlights multiple ways you can invest in evangelism and join the "remnant" who is committed to sharing the Gospel of Christ with the world. **See page 10 for more on these stories.**



You. Sharing Jesus.

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Send address changes to
Action! World Bible School
P.O. Box 2169
Cedar Park, Texas 78630

PERIODICAL MAIL
NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CEDAR PARK, TX
PE 4380

LOOK INSIDE...

Help us build by investing in our **\$1.5 Million Match and Challenge**

See page 6

