



ACTION!

M A G A Z I N E F A L L 8 8 : 4



STAYING FOCUSED **ON JESUS**

JESUS MAKES THE DIFFERENCE ...



... IN AMERICA AND AROUND THE WORLD

BY BRIAN REX DAVIS
CEDAR PARK, TEXAS
WBS ACTION! EDITOR AND PRESIDENT

As I was researching previous articles for our 50 Forward Campaign (where we are honoring our first 50 years while looking forward to our next 50 years), I ran across this illustration drawn by Brother Holland in 1968. Holland, a professional illustrator for the Chicago Tribune, often helped Jimmie Lovell illustrate spiritual points in ACTION Magazine. This picture of Uncle Sam kneeling at the cross is a powerful reminder of how much **our world needs Jesus** ... how much **the United States needs Jesus!**

Though World Bible School began with Students from Nigeria and has had a significant impact on the continent of Africa, **WBS tools are now deployed to reach every country on earth.** Our generous donors have made significant investment in tools that span several major languages and generations. Many of our Study Helpers have asked if we are giving adequate attention to tools for evangelizing the United States of America. We at WBS certainly share this concern.

I am reminded of a passage from 1 Timothy 4:1, *"Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons"* (ESV).

The only hope for any nation and any generation is to have the teachings of Jesus shining the light of truth and the hope of the Gospel message into the darkness of Satan's influence.

Christians must daily renew their hope in the Gospel and its power to transform lives in order to face the world in which we live.

We see this encouragement from the Apostle Paul in Romans 1:16, *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."*

Sharing the Good News of Jesus really is the power to make a difference in any nation no matter what the

challenges. **We are ambassadors of a higher kingdom, the Kingdom of Christ, and not to any kingdom, nation or party of this world.** Ultimately, every knee will bow to Jesus. Our joyful task is to convince people to do so willingly. A willing soul obeying the Gospel becomes a light shining in the darkness, giving the same opportunity to others.

WBS has crafted paper correspondence evangelism tools, digital tools complete with easy to access apps for teaching and studying, and a group study app introduced by powerful video presentations and "Digging Deeper" articles. Learn more on our website at worldbibleschool.net.

We have also crafted study Bibles with intuitive evangelism notes in the back for sharing Jesus by sharing a Bible. Visit worldbibleschool.net/bible.

As a parent, grandparent, Study Helper and Christian, sometimes I wonder what will actually motivate someone to follow Jesus. I think of those I love and fear that they will never choose to follow the Son of God! The Apostle John records the powerful words of Jesus in John 12:32, *"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."*

How do I face the world with hope and have the best chance of helping those in my life choose to follow Jesus? Share Jesus! Jesus, Himself, will draw all who will obey the Gospel. Brothers and sisters, let us renew our commitment to be sharers of Jesus in the coming year! Tools for evangelism do not work by themselves. There are no shortcuts.

Each Spring, my father would introduce me to a garden hoe. He would tell me what a great tool this was for having a great garden of vegetables. Then he would remind me, "The tool only works if the gardener picks it up and puts it to use."

If you or your congregation needs help brainstorming how to use our evangelism tools, please contact us at **(512) 345-8190** or help@worldbibleschool.net. We are here to help you!



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



Elizabeth (left) was baptized into Christ at the Sunset church of Christ in **Lubbock, Texas** by our very own WBS Regional Advancement Representative, James Kinnaird.

Celiwe, (right) a WBS Lite Student, was buried with Christ through baptism on Sept. 26 in **Dennilton, South Africa** by Mabena of Gospel Chariot Missions.



JESUS continues to change lives **today!**

Share your stories with us! Email help@worldbibleschool.net



Judith (left) was baptized in a family's pool in **San Antonio, Texas**. More than a dozen members from the church of Christ came out to witness her act of faith.



Shelby, (right) from **Honolulu, Hawaii**, studied WBS Online and upon finding the church put on Christ in baptism.



Sadha (left) studied WBS on the WBS App and was baptized into Christ in **Andhra Pradesh, India**.

Americo, (right) a Portuguese speaking Student in **Mozambique** was baptized into Christ.



Gospel Chariot (far right) helping Follow-up: Kuziwa Chibanda, WBS Student of Chris Schaffer, is baptized by Auswich in Zimbabwe.



Three Ocean Bridge Students

were baptized into Christ despite being in a **Zimbabwe prison**. They also received their own WBS Study Edition Bible.



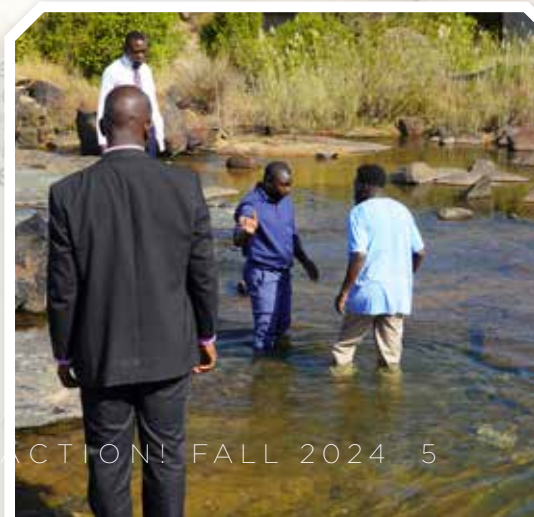
Michaela, (left) from **Pueblo, Colorado** is baptized and joins local congregation of the Lord's church.

Katelyn, (right) from **Myrtle Beach, South Carolina**, studied WBS using the WBS App. After completing the course *This is Good News*, she was eager put on Christ in baptism. She has continued to study and grow her faith with her Study Helper and local church family.



Juap William, (left) a WBS Online Student, from **Malawi**, continues to conduct local Bible studies which most recently led 87 souls to be baptized into Christ.

We have already reported in previous ACTION! Magazines Bro. William's evangelistic efforts within Malawi. Hundreds of souls have chosen to follow New Testament Christianity through Juap's efforts. This illustrates how the Gospel can have a synergistic effect within each of your efforts.





Joyce, (above) a WBS Lite Student from **Kenya** was baptized into Christ. Her Follow-up Partner wrote this to WBS and her Study Helper, Sharon, "Joyce feels very happy and excited to know more about the church of Christ. I also had more experience with Joyce, and I realized the lessons you took Joyce through have really helped her to identify the difference between denominations and the church of Christ."



Aaron, (above) a WBS Lite Student, completed the course, *Born of Water and Spirit* and asked his Study Helper, Tom, to be baptized. Tom submitted Aaron for Follow-up in early October and Follow-up Partner, Julius, contacted Aaron and arranged a meeting. Aaron was then baptized into Christ and was connected with a congregation near him in **Sanniquellie, Liberia**.

Issac (right) was baptized into Christ after helpful discussion from his Study Helper and Follow-up Partner. He now attends a local church of Christ in **Accra, Ghana**.



In Nigeria, (left) Ocean Bridge Students are awarded their certificate and a WBS Study Bible after completing the Master Series. Included in their graduation packet is information for Students who want to respond to the Gospel and join a local congregation of the Lord's church.

In Zimbabwe, (below) WBS Board Member, Washington Mhalanga, gifts Ocean Bridge Students a WBS Bible. A total of 87 Students were baptized that day.





Inna, (left) after an encouraging discussion with her Follow-up Partner, chose to arrive early for worship Sunday morning at a nearby congregation in **Michigan** to be baptized. Her nieces and husband witnessed her baptism and participated in worship with her.

Okongwu, (right) a WBS Lite Student from **Sierra Leone** was baptized into Christ after completing the Master Series on his smartphone.



Publication of Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

1. Publication Title: ACTION! 2. Publication Number: PE-4380 3. Filing Date: October 1, 2024
4. Issue Frequency: Quarterly 5. # Issues Published Annually: 4 6. Annual Subscription Price: \$0.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication and (8.) of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher and (9.) of: Publisher (World Bible School, Inc.); Editor (Brian Rex Davis); and Managing Editor (William Bush): World Bible School, Inc., 16110 Anderson Mill Rd, Cedar Park, TX 78613
10. Owner: World Bible School, Inc., 16110 Anderson Mill Rd, Cedar Park, TX 78613
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities: None
12. The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes has not changed during preceding 12 months.
13. Publication Title: ACTION!
14. Issue Date for Circulation Date Below: Summer 2024
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: Reports of work to constituents

	Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months	Actual no. single issues nearest to filing date
a. Total Number of Copies (net press run):	29,500	31,500
b. Paid Circ. (By Mail and Outside the Mail):		
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County		
Copies included on PS Form 3541:	26,433	20,668
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County		
Copies included on PS Form 3541:	688	578
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS:	845	845
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail:	100	100
c. Total Paid Distribution:	28,065	22,191
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution: (By Mail and Outside the Mail):		
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County		
Copies included on PS Form 3541:	0	0
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County		
Copies included on PS Form 3541:	0	0
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS:	0	0
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail:	750	750
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution:	750	750
f. Total Distribution:	28,815	22,941
g. Copies not Distributed:	685	10,059
h. Total	29,500	24,000
i. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circ:	97.40%	96.73%

Three Portuguese

Students (right) named Belita, Benjamin and Joana were baptized into Christ after studying WBS in **Morrumbala, Mozambique**.



EDITOR: BRIAN REX DAVIS
ACTION! (ISSN 8750-1333) USPS 004380 IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE NON-PROFIT MINISTRY OF WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL.
16110 ANDERSON MILL RD · CEDAR PARK, TEXAS 78613
512.345.8190 · 800.311.2006 · ORDERS: 877.393.0211
INFO@WORLDBIBLESCHOOL.NET
MINISTRY SITE: WWW.WORLDBIBLESCHOOL.NET
STUDENT SITE: WWW.WORLDBIBLESCHOOL.ORG
POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO
WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL, P.O. BOX 2169, CEDAR PARK, TX 78630
PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT CEDAR PARK, TX & AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.

Jesus Must Be Taught: **Effective Evangelism**



BY JOHN REESE
SEARCY, ARKANSAS
PRESIDENT EMERITUS

As we focus on Jesus, we see the focus of His concern: “*Proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation*” (Mark 16:15). The creation He loves now numbers over 8 billion souls, most of whom know nothing of His sacrifice to save them. We pray earnestly to the Lord to *send more laborers into His harvest* (Luke 10:2).

Following Jesus’ focus, World Bible School is determined to accelerate world evangelism. An obvious step is to equip and empower the thousands of Students converted to Christ through WBS. This pool of “laborers” grows significantly every year. Already, many Students enroll their friends and want to do more. For example, veteran missionary, Wendell Broom, conducted regular surveys of churches of Christ in Nigeria. Their church growth doubled every decade, which Wendell attributed to three factors: World Bible School, leadership training schools, and the evangelistic spirit of converts: “They consider their baptism to be their ordination.”

How can such zeal be intensified and made more fruitful? By more purposeful training! You can do so by adding to your curriculum our brand new course, *Effective Evangelism*, as a force multiplier!

In many cases, you know Students who have responded to the Gospel. Wherever they are in the world, if you are still in contact, find a way to send them *Effective Evangelism*. Going forward, treat *Effective Evangelism* as a course that should follow conversion. While the new Christian is excited, build on that enthusiasm for a lifetime of fruitfulness.

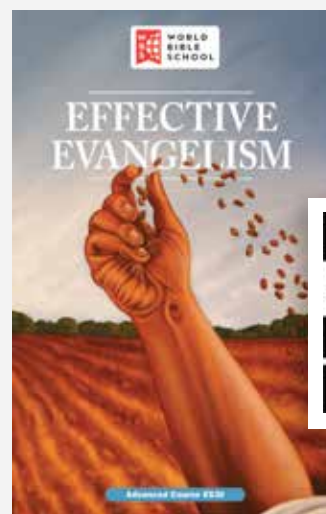
Effective Evangelism has a different design for interaction compared to our other Advanced Courses. It has no middle page section to be graded. Instead, it offers three practical assignments whereby the Student applies skills learned in the course.

Like the WBS Advanced Courses, *Effective Evangelism* is designed for much more than correspondence. As a true Bible study, it is ideal also for Sunday and Wednesday Bible classes, small groups and individual Christians, regardless of years in Christ, and with or without any WBS background. Indeed, this course can lay a solid foundation for the entire congregation.

The 13 interactive lessons are based firmly on the model of Jesus. His principles apply universally in all situations. He fires up motivation. His Word leads to success. This course trains through the Scriptures, offers Bible study sheets and shows Students how to build their own Bible studies for teaching others. Throughout, the focus is on the Lord of the harvest.

Have you been imploring Him to send more laborers? Then evaluate this new WBS course and, more importantly, put its biblical principles to work.

Order Now!



Visit worldbibleschool.net/resources or scan the QR code gain access to our wide variety of evangelism resources, including *Effective Evangelism*.

Crafting New Ways for **Follow-up**

Follow-up has always been a creative partnership between Study Helpers, missionaries, local evangelists and WBS staff. However, the biggest partner in our Follow-up has been God! We never miss an opportunity to pray for our Students as we seek to assist them in being baptized and in finding their place in the body of Christ.

Online Follow-up has been a blessing as we have crafted a digital means of correspondence on our website and smartphone apps. Just like with Postal, we are ever trying to build a network of volunteers who can help. Visit worldbibleschool.net/follow-up learn how you can partner with us to connect Students with the Lord's church.

New tools, like Ocean Bridge, require new methods for Follow-up. The speed of lesson turn-around and the high percentage of Student retention is demanding swifter Follow-up. The time it takes to build this capacity has been challenging in some countries. Congregations such as the Prattville church of Christ in Alabama and the Concord Road church of Christ in Nashville, Tennessee, are helping us craft new effective means to accomplish Follow-up for Ocean Bridge.

Below are some ideas on how we can make our Follow-up even more effective:

- Help us build partnerships with sister ministries who are on-site and on fire for evangelism. Here are a few ministries who are already partnering with us:
 - o Gospel Chariot & Gospel Share Ministries
 - o Sunset International Bible Institute's international schools

- o Southern Africa Bible College
- o Healing Hands International
- o School of the Bible in Brazil

- Ask your Students discerning questions to help them think through their need to be baptized. Many exposed to other beliefs will need to think through their answer carefully.
- Be the persistent widow (Luke 18:1-8) in drawing attention for Follow-up needs to WBS and international volunteers. When we run out of ideas at WBS, pursue creative ways of asking the brotherhood in the specific country to help.
- Involve the Student in their own Follow-up. Some Students may be in schools or prisons that do not allow baptisms. Ask your Student if you can share their contact information with a local evangelist in their area. Try finding a contact or a church near your Student (you can also contact our WBS office for assistance). Share that information with your Student so they can pursue being baptized or finding a church home.
- Patiently and prayerfully persevere. When we have all tried our best, let's ask God to help as we keep teaching more Students. God is the bigger partner and can make a way!

Finally, thank you for all you do to help Follow-up with Students longing for true life in Christ!

**Need assistance? Call (512) 345-8190
or email help@worldbibleschool.net.**

David and Cheryl Harper Honored at the WBS Nashville Benefit Dinner

David Harper retires from full-time work at WBS after 5 years in Advancement

David Harper is a lifelong, committed follower of Christ. He has been a loving husband, father and grandfather, a godly businessman, a deacon and elder of the Concord Road church of Christ (Brentwood, TN) and an active WBS Study Helper. But it was when he struck a relationship with Ruth Orr (1939-2014, namesake of the WBS

Wall of Honor) that his ministry in the Lord's church changed dramatically. A reluctant David accompanied Ruth on a his first-ever trip to Africa.



That experience and Ruth's loving, energetic mentorship forever impacted how he would view the world, understand its need for Jesus and play a personal role in fulfilling the Great Commission. After Ruth passed, David carried on in her footsteps. In particular, he has returned to Africa numerous times and has flourished as the WBS Coordinator for the Concord Road congregation, with focus on the productive mission fields of Ghana, Zambia and Malawi.

In 2020, at age 62, David made a career change of a lifetime, becoming a successful WBS Advancement Representative for raising funds and growing WBS involvement by many churches and individual Christians across Tennessee. David's wife, Cheryl, has always been a constant supporter and encourager as together they have selflessly served the Lord and those around them.



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NEW RELEASE FROM



"The Mission of God" hosted by Brian Davis is a four-part series which equips believers into understanding and engaging in Christian missions.

Ripple of Light is a Christian multimedia ministry of the churches of Christ who has partnered with WBS on numerous occasions, including producing the first three Mathetis Original courses.

WBS Welcomes James Kinnaird

Kinnaird joins WBS Advancement as a representative for Texas and Oklahoma



James Kinnaird, from Lubbock, Texas, joined the World Bible School team at the beginning of August 2024 as a WBS Regional Advancement Representative for North and Northwest Texas and Oklahoma. Prior to WBS, James' background includes experience in teaching and education, preaching and non-profit

ministries, mission work across several countries and as a former restaurant owner.

James writes, "I'm thankful to join WBS and the Advancement department as we develop and strengthen connections between the work of WBS alongside current and potential supporters in a region I hold dear. Thank you for your prayers. I'm also praying for you as we share Jesus and advance the Kingdom."

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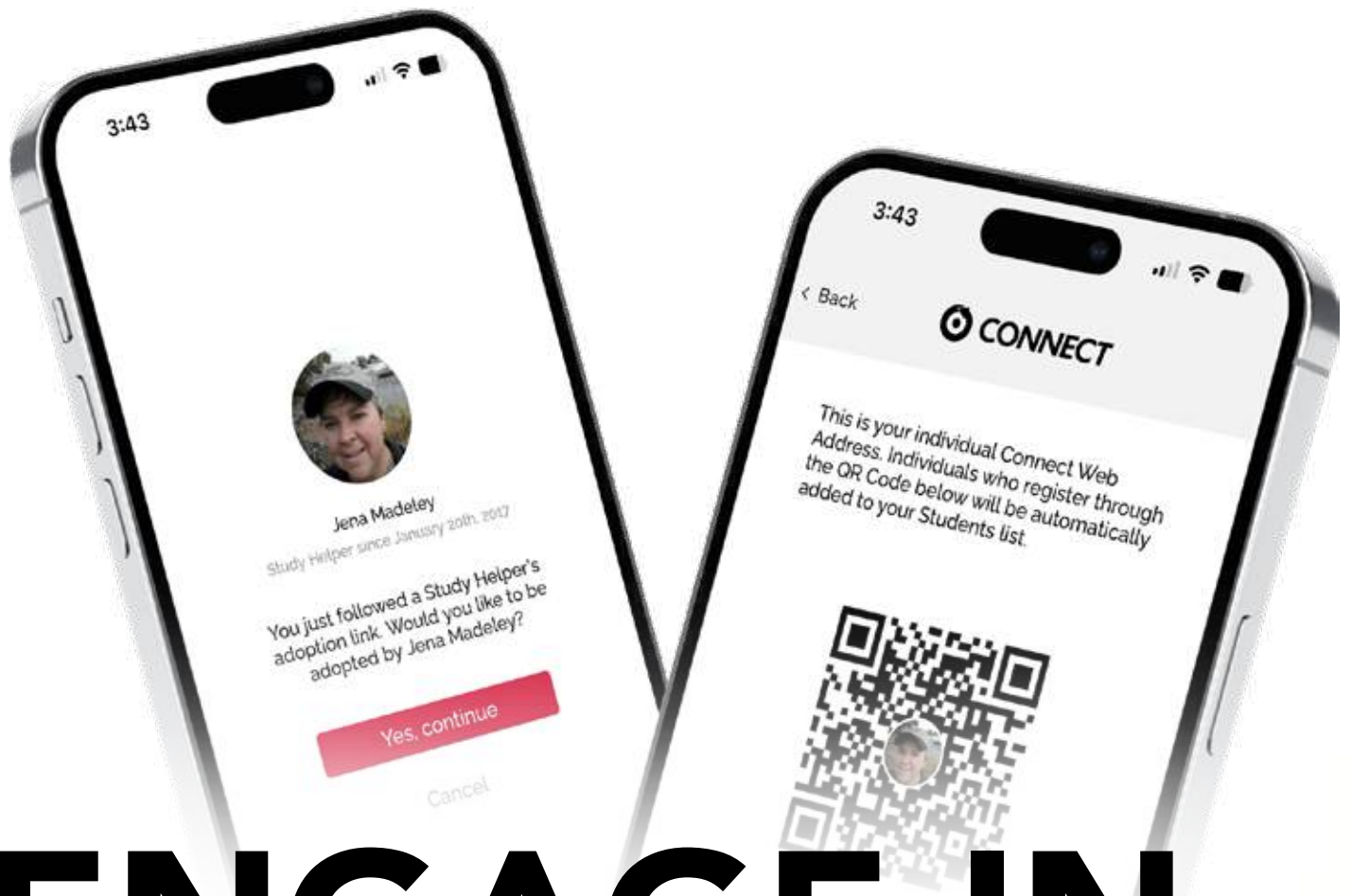
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ENGAGE IN PERSONAL EVANGELISM

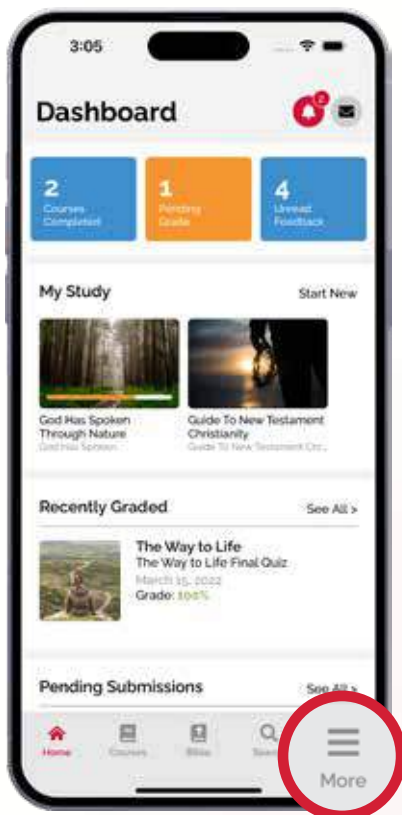
WITH THE WBS APP

BY TIM YAEGER
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Imagine having the ability to start an online Bible study with anyone you meet—quickly, easily and in the moment. Instead of fumbling for a piece of paper or your business card, you can invite someone to study with you online directly from the WBS App. Whether you are on a plane, shopping in a store or chatting with your server at a restaurant, the WBS App brings personal evangelism to your fingertips.

You can invite someone to start a WBS Bible study with you in **just one click**. Here's how it works:

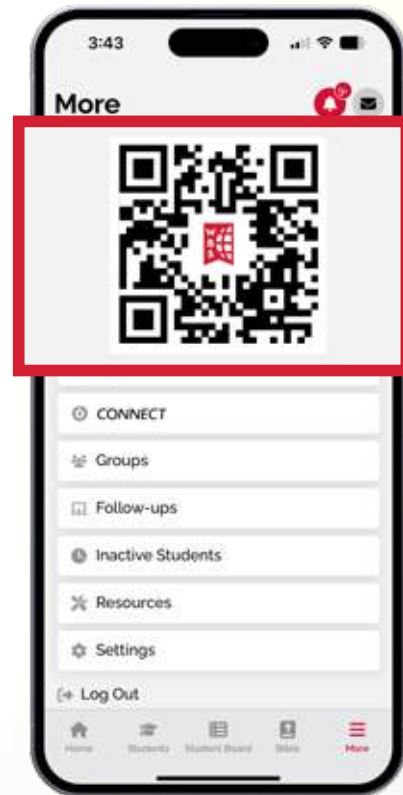
1. Click “More” in the bottom menu.



CLICK HERE

2. Show your personalized QR code to your prospective Student.

3. They can scan the QR code with their smartphone's camera, which takes them directly to the WBS App where they can sign up.



**NEW
STUDENT
SCANS
HERE**

Once they register, they become your Student—immediately. You do not have to adopt them from the Student Board. There is no risk of someone else adopting them first. You are automatically their personal Study Helper.

The WBS App also makes it easy to share a unique link via text, email or on any social media platform. Click on “Connect” in the “More” menu. Then click the link icon to copy your personal URL. Now you can paste and send a message with your personalized link to anyone.

To get started today, simply download the WBS App from the App Store or Google Play and log into your Study Helper account with your email and password.

If you are not an Online Study Helper, visit worldbibleschool.net/teach and apply today. Once approved, we will send you an email with instruction on how to set your password. Once set, you can download and log into the WBS App. For assistance, email us at help@worldbibleschool.net.

WHY INVEST IN WBS?



GEORGE BARLOW
AUSTIN, TEXAS
CHIEF ADVANCEMENT OFFICER

Investing in World Bible School can be a meaningful way to support the spread of the Gospel and the making of disciples globally. As you take this to the Lord in prayer, below is some helpful information that will assist you as you invest with discernment.

Understanding the Mission of WBS

Mission: WBS aims to share Jesus with the world by motivating and equipping Christians to use interactive Bible studies effectively. We are committed to New Testament Christianity and have emphasized biblical teaching and discipleship for over 51 years.

Why Invest in WBS?

#1 - Mission Alignment

Biblical Foundation: In our commitment to New Testament Christianity, we ensure our curriculum and conduct aligns with sound biblical teachings.

Global Impact: WBS focuses on spreading the Gospel worldwide, reaching people from diverse backgrounds with the message of Jesus Christ.

#2 - Transparency and Accountability

Financial Integrity: WBS provides detailed financial reports, showcasing responsible stewardship of resources. Potential donors can review annual reports and audited financial statements.

Accountability: WBS has a structured leadership and a board of directors that maintain high standards of transparency and accountability.

#3 - Impact and Effectiveness

Proven Track Record: WBS has a history of successfully reaching individuals through its Bible study programs. Testimonials and success stories demonstrate the real impact on lives transformed by the Gospel.

Effective Metrics: WBS measures its success through the number of participants in Bible studies, conversions, and the establishment of new disciples.

#4 - Community and Volunteer Engagement

Volunteer Network: WBS engages a global network of Christians who volunteer their time and resources to facilitate Bible studies, indicating a strong and active community.

Local and Global Reach: The model of WBS allows for both local involvement and global impact, providing opportunities for personal engagement and broader influence.

#5 - Sustainability

Strategic Planning: WBS has a strategic plan to ensure long-term sustainability and growth, including diversified funding sources and ongoing program development.

Resource Allocation: Funds are allocated efficiently to maximize the impact of Bible study programs and outreach efforts.

#6 - Personal Involvement

Multiple Ways to Contribute: Beyond financial contributions, supporters can engage by becoming volunteer Study Helpers, Mentors and Follow-up workers, promoting WBS in their local congregations, and, most importantly, praying for this good work.

Direct Impact: Personal involvement in our programs allows donors to see firsthand the difference their investment makes in the lives of others.

Steps to Invest with Discernment

#1 - Research and Understand WBS

- Visit our website at worldbibleschool.net to learn about our mission, values and programs.
- To review our financial reports and strategic plans please call our office at (512) 345-8190.

#2 - Engage with World Bible School

- Contact us to ask questions and gain a deeper understanding of our work.
- Consider volunteering or participating in a Bible study to experience the impact directly.

#3 - Pray for Guidance

- Seek God's wisdom in making the decision to invest.
- Pray for our leaders, volunteers and those they reach with the Gospel.

#4 - Consider Long-term Commitment

- Think about the long-term impact of your investment.
- Explore opportunities for recurring donations or sustained involvement. To learn more, scan the QR code or visit worldbibleschool.net/50forward





Earlier this year, a handful of dedicated families generously pledged a total of \$1.43 million. These families give these matching and challenge funds to encourage us in giving to make Jesus and His Gospel known to our world.

JOIN THE 2024 MATCH & CHALLENGE

SPECIAL WBS DONORS HAVE CHALLENGED YOU TO GIVE

\$1,430,000

\$725,295 Raised as of 10/22/24

\$1.43 Million



PLANNED GIVING WITH A MISSION

**Have you made plans for the future of your estate?
Here are some questions you may want to consider.**

- What kind of legacy do I want to leave?
- What does my estate look like?
- Who are my preferred beneficiaries?
- Should my gift be current or at my death?
- Do I need income as result of my planned gift?
- Do I need to provide income for others?
- Are plans and documents in place in the event of my incapacity and/or disability?

If you would like assistance in estate planning or contributing a planned gift please contact **Rick Shur**.

Phone: (615) 916-0420 | Email: rick@worldbibleschool.net

Please accept my **GIFT** of:

☐ \$10 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other: \$ _____

Please make my **GIFT** a:

☐ One time gift ☐ Monthly recurring ☐ Yearly recurring

DONOR is:

☐ Individual/Household **-or-** ☐ Congregation

Name: _____

Name of Congregation: _____

Donor Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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: ____ / ____ CVC: ____
3-digit security code required.

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____



SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT [WORLDBIBLESCHOOL.NET/GIVE](https://www.worldbibleschool.net/give) TO GIVE ONLINE

Please make my **GIFT** a tribute:

☐ Memorial Gift ☐ Honor Gift

This tribute is for: _____

Send acknowledgement to: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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



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ENGAGE IN PERSONAL EVANGELISM

Tim Yaeger - Page 12

WHY INVEST IN WBS?

George Barlow - Page 14

SHARE JESUS, GIVE A BIBLE!

For only **\$5**, the WBS Study Edition Bible (NASB, 1995) is a great gift to help lead someone to Jesus. It contains the WBS Study Notes which can be used to encourage individual, one-on-one or group Bible study.

How Christians are using this great tool:

- 1) A gift within evangelistic outreach efforts
- 2) Within youth and young adult ministries
- 3) A gift to WBS Students
- 4) Gifts during hospital and prison visits
- 5) Equipping churches with pew Bibles

Visit worldbibleschool.net/bible or scan the QR code to order now!

ORDER NOW!



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