

Pharving Jesus



Picture yourself as an employee of the Coca-Cola Company. A new directive comes down from head office:

“Every individual living in your region should be able to see an appealing ad for Coca-Cola virtually every day.” What do you do with such a tall order? Throw up your hands at the impossibility of it all? Talk a good game, then go through the motions to make it seem like you are complying? Not if you want to keep your job! If you are sufficiently motivated, you find a way.

And, of course, Coca-Cola has done exactly that in region after region, country after country, all across the world. Coke’s annual budget for advertising globally exceeds \$3 billion each year.

What about God’s business as conducted by the body of Christ? We have received a similar order from our Head: “Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation” (Mark 16:15). As various versions show, this means taking the Good News to “every creature”—every individual—worldwide (cf. Colossians 1:23). Again, this order is met with similar reactions: Hands thrown up in disbelief, or a token show of compliance, or trust and obedience that determines to accomplish the mission. Just as a regional manager at Coca-Cola focuses on an assigned territory, each congregation and each Christian has an area of influence.

**And what of God’s
business as conducted by
the body of Christ?
“Go into all the world...”**

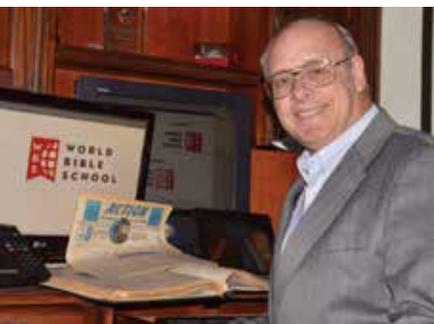
Typically this begins with our surroundings—our “Jerusalem” (Acts 1:8). Within a defined geographical space, can we make sure that “every creature” has genuine opportunities to hear the Gospel? Unequivocally, YES! Yes, if we really want to! If Coca-Cola can do it for sugar water, we can certainly do it for the glory of God and to rescue as many as possible. If an earthly company can do it by human power, we can certainly succeed by divine power!

Note: *Action!* is replete with practical examples of Christians reaching those around them. Look inside for “An Example of Saturation” and “Plan to Saturate your Place.”



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An Example of Saturation

John Reese — CEDAR PARK, Texas

God has placed within us a special love for our homeland. In my case there are two: Zimbabwe (where I was born) and the USA (to which my family and I moved in 1991). I praise God that He has empowered the saturation of portions of Zimbabwe with Gospel opportunities.



Another joyful baptism in Zimbabwe

For World Bible School, the latest impact began in 2007 with “God Bless Africa.” We, along with fellow-Zimbabwean leaders, systematically executed a plan to engage churches of Christ across that nation

as student recruiters. That year, 50,000 new Zimbabweans enrolled in WBS Bible studies, with rapid growth thereafter. Around 2012 we safely estimated 500,000 students in Zimbabwe (“safely” because 300,000 applied in 2011 alone, through Cedar Park alone, one of multiple enrollment avenues). Current and recent WBS students likely number somewhere between 500,000 and 1,000,000—a significant ratio for a nation estimated at 16 million. WBS is a household name in parts of Zimbabwe where virtually “every creature” has received Gospel opportunities through WBS. With so much Gospel seed coming up, follow up workers are hard-pressed to keep up with the harvest—fruit for eternal life!

WBS is a household name in parts of Zimbabwe where virtually “every creature” has received Gospel opportunities.

Can we do the same for sections of America? In some ways, we are better positioned: many mature congregations, generous giving, Internet connectivity and WBS Connect Web ads to which over 200,000 Americans have responded already. Hundreds of congregations are engaged. Ask for the plan called Connect US. My email is john@worldbibleschool.net and my phone number is 512-345-8190.



Let’s Saturate Our World!

This “Web Ads Map” is a living document that is constantly updated as new data arrives. The pink sections show locations that are currently being targeted with Web Ads using WBS Connect. To see this map, go to www.worldbibleschool.net/resources and then find “WBS Web Ads Map” listed in the “General Resources” section. This is a great tool to show people where the “action” is right now, and where opportunities exist for further targeting. Connect U.S. aims to fill up as much of the United States as possible with targeted (pink) areas, while other mission works continue to add more coverage to the world. Please note that while pink areas show activity, they are by no means exclusive. More congregations can jump right in and amplify the efforts in existing areas.

Editor’s Note: Action! continues to introduce World Bible School personnel. Gale Scott serves as controller in our financial department. She brings a wealth of experience, including human resources skills honed over many years with Paul Faulkner’s company Resources for Living. Above all, Gale is a devoted disciple and disciple-maker. I asked her to share two more of her many remarkable stories.

Grandkids in the Faith

Gale Scott — CEDAR PARK, Texas

Jesus’ last words on earth, the Great Commission, ensured that Gospel seeds would be planted and reproduced from generation to generation. Here are examples of how this principle has worked in two families—one in distant Africa and the other right here in the U. S.

One of my first WBS students back in the early 1980s was a young Muslim man named Adjayi Inoussa. After his conversion to Christ, he attended Nigerian Christian College. He preached for many years in French-speaking African countries and is now discipling other preachers as the Assistant Director of the Preacher Training School in Benin. A couple of years ago he baptized his 85-year-old mother, and I recently received word that two more of his five children, Ruth and Gad, have been baptized into Christ.



Adjayi with Gad and Ruth

continued on page 6



This past week I was in a Bible study and the topic of God working in our world came up. Someone asked, "How does God work in our world?" while another asked, "Can we see God working in the world today?" The answer to both is a resounding, "Yes... through us!"

As reported in an earlier *Action!*, we were blessed and excited to share the good news of meeting and exceeding our 2015 Campaign 360 Match which added over a thousand new donors and increasing donors. As a result of that great effort, two generous couples have stepped up for World Bible School to create *Challenge 2016*.

How have they stepped up? They've done so with a challenge gift of \$200,000. With this gift they are challenging us all, beginning May 15th through the end of September, to do three things:

- 1) become a new donor, or
- 2) increase your giving from 2015, or
- 3) if you missed a year or more, come back and add WBS to your giving list this year.

Challenge 2016 will run during these four and half months during a time when many of us are thinking about vacations, holidays and times of "getting away from it all."



IS HERE!

Let God work through you!

During these special months, cash-flow needs to be boosted. God, however, is still working in the world and urges us to be part of His work. As Jesus' words remind us in Mark 16:15, "proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation." This is the essence of WBS and the very reason for you to take *Challenge 2016* very personally.

At WBS, we are not satisfied to "be as good as last year." We must grow together! Growth simply means more students studying the Bible, more Christians teaching them, more congregations engaged, more Bibles to print, more languages online—all meaning many more souls finding Jesus and His life-saving story.

Is God working in our world today? You are the answer to that question! Please join with these generous donor-couples and accept their *Challenge 2016* to be part of the growth of God's kingdom in a special and needed way from now through September.

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



Editor: John Reese

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I want to give **this amount now:**
\$ _____
is enclosed.

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Ph _____
(day) (night)

E-mail _____

Church _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I am a WBS teacher or I have been sometime in the past.

I want to make a commitment by joining **Sowing the Seed.**

I'll give this amount

Monthly:

\$30/mo

\$60/mo

\$100/mo

\$ _____/mo

I'll give this amount

Annually:

\$300/yr

\$600/yr

\$1,000/yr

\$ _____/yr

Please charge my **credit card** for the amount at left.

Visa Discover MasterCard
 Amex Other _____

(You can give securely online: worldbibleschool.net/give)

Card No: _____

Expiration: ____/____/____

Name (as on card) _____

Signature: _____

I'm setting up **Automatic Bill Pay** from my bank.

My gift is a **Tribute**. See the back of this form.

Tell me more about: will planning
 income-producing gift options

I am } including WBS in my will

I am considering } or other estate plans.

In Honor of...

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Don & Virginia Worten
- Mr. & Mrs. James Blair**
Bill & Mary Sherman
- Misty Hall**
Gilbert Trollinger
- James & Annette Herron**
Ralph & Mary Reese
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- Isaiah Nix**
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- Orange Ave Church of Christ family**
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Louise Thomas
- Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Thomas**
Louise Thomas
- Doug Wheeler**
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Lar Doyle
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L. V. Pfeifer
The Church of Christ at White
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Oma E. Richardson
- Jim Taylor**
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Dean & Virginia Duncan
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Round Rock
- Carrie Veteto**
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Lar Doyle
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Oma E. Richardson
- Billy Wisener**
Jerry & Mary Mitchell
- Margaret Yarbrough**
Michael & Kamela Brown
- Ray Yenawine**
William & Vickie Seniker

Please make my gift a tribute.

Memorial Gifts and Honor Gifts

are ideal ways to pay tribute to a loved one's legacy or special occasions. At the same time, your gift will be used to "share Jesus" with WBS.

I have completed my personal information on the back of this form.

- HONOR GIFT** Birthday Anniversary
 Illness Friendship Other _____

MEMORIAL GIFT

For:

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____
City _____ ST _____

Please send a letter of acknowledgement to:

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Their Relationship to Honoree _____

They Yet Speak

Reuel Lemmons was the second director of World Bible School, serving in that capacity from 1984 to 1987. According to his successor, Tex Williams, Reuel preached in 79 nations, as well as all across the United States. He edited Firm Foundation and left behind many writings. We borrow a couple of excerpts here.

Joe Cannon pioneered post-war missions, including new works in Japan and Papua New Guinea. After serving as visiting missionary teacher at Harding College, he continued missionary training in Memphis through Mission 1000. The excerpt below is from his Mission 1000 bulletin *His Harvest*.

Reuel: [The Restoration Movement is] an attempt to get back past Protestantism, which admittedly contained errors inherited from the parent organization, Romanism; back past the apostate church itself—all the way back to the New Testament. Everything not currently practiced in religion that was practiced by the original church was advocated. Everything currently practiced, which the New Testament church did not practice was opposed.

This is not a narrow view. It is the broadest religious view under heaven. We plead for the doing away of creeds, catechisms, confessions of faith, disciplines, manuals and constitutions, and for a uniting of us all on the broad, undenominational, non sectarian basis of the word of God (1955).

We have become almost totally on-evangelistic. We seem to have lost our knowledge of how to convert people. Long range planning of evangelistic priorities is badly needed.... We are depending entirely too much on professionals and have forgotten the priesthood of the individual believer. As a result we are losing ground numerically, and are reaching a smaller percentage of the world's population every year (1986).

Joe: One effort that has shown us “the fields are white unto harvest” is World Bible School. There are thousands of people all over the world interested in studying the Bible. Their letters are piled up everywhere, unanswered because of lack of interest. We have decided to promote WBS as much as possible.



Joe Cannon (in the middle)

Not all who have trained with us were able to make it to foreign fields. But I want them to know that through WBS they can reach out to the lost of the world from wherever they are. Also, those who are overseas can find in WBS a great tool for contacting and teaching many where they are.

For this reason we are mailing out the names of WBS contacts to you our readers with the hope that you will take a little time to use this teaching method. Don't give up on your vision of world evangelism! You

can go to many nations through this and other Bible correspondence systems.

Once more, let us hear Christ urging us to take another long look at the lost of the world and do more about reaching them.



Reuel Lemmons

In Memory of Fran Henson

Dean Kilmer — WAXAHACHIE, Texas



Dean Kilmer

Fran Henson was 78 years old when she first moved to Waxahachie, Texas.

On her arrival she was upset when the movers dropped her old sewing machine. It was important to her because she had been involved in the “You are Special” program

at Edmond church of Christ in Oklahoma where she had made beautiful dresses for underprivileged girls. Soon her sewing machine was fixed and she made clothes to be given out at our care center. Fran also was deeply concerned with fulfilling the Great Commission and saving souls.

When Fran learned that our congregation [Brown Street, Waxahachie] was involved in World Bible School,

she immediately began diligent work to reach the lost throughout the world. Every week Fran would meet with our WBS teachers and send out as many lessons as possible. Not only did



Fran Henson

she work with the group, she would take hundreds of lessons home to teach by herself. No one knows for certain how many lessons Fran sent out to Zimbabwe and other developing countries. However, I do know that in one week she sent out 600 lessons.

At the age of 90, Fran was still sending out more WBS lessons than any other person I've ever met. Fran's example inspires us all to be available for God's service, no matter what our age.

Editor's Note: WBS's special emphasis on *Connect U.S.* parallels Dean's long-time focus. If you wish to order his book *Igniting the Moral Courage of America*, visit his site www.deankilmer.com or write to 716 McMurry, Waxahachie, TX 75165.



In 2015, Sherri Hays at WBS' Cedar Park office processed 790,917 new WBS enrollments worldwide. 250,000 of those new Bible students were from Zimbabwe. (It's interesting to note that John Reese was born in what is now Zimbabwe, part of what was then known as Rhodesia.) This summer Sherri and the Reeses, with others, will be working alongside Christians in Zimbabwe with continuing student recruiting and follow up there.

If you are seeking or want saturation tools—means to share the Good News of Jesus—seriously consider those provided by WBS. In the last two decades, WBS has distributed well over 27,000,000 interactive Bible courses sent by WBS teachers and printed *Actions!* Hundreds of thousands more have studied the Bible with our online tools. Learn more at www.worldbibleschool.net.



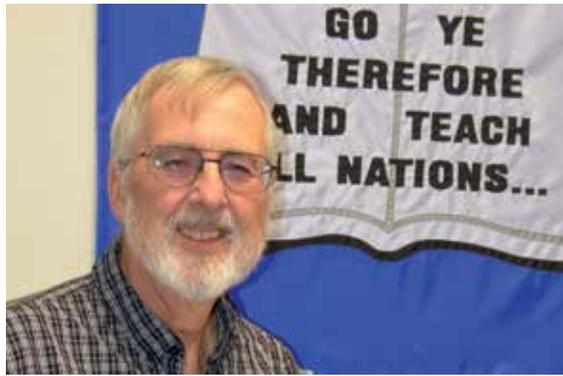
Another Saturation Tool: House to House

Like *Action!*, *House to House/Heart to Heart* is published six times a year as a colorful eight pager. While *Action!* addresses you, the Gospel-sharer, *House to House* strengthens the mission by addressing the general public. Currently over 1,000 churches of Christ use customized copies to reach their communities. The total printing each time comes to 2,500,000, which exceeds major newspapers like *The Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*.



Allen Webster

Since its founding by Allen Webster in 1994, over 200 million copies of *House to House* have been sent to communities in all 50 states and in over 60 nations. The entire state of Alabama has received the magazine, and the next goal is all of Tennessee. Luke Griffin says, "We are over 2/3 of the way to that goal." For more detail go to get.housetohouse.com. In addition to editing *House to House*, Allen and the Jacksonville church of Christ in Alabama also host a popular event, *Polishing the Pulpit*, which aims to renew, refresh and recharge God's workers. This year's event will be held in the beautiful Smoky Mountains of Tennessee on August 19-25 when 200 speakers will address 4,000 people in 700 sessions over six days.



Report from Jim Corner

The responsibility for sharing the Gospel rests on the shoulders of every child of God. I became a World Bible School teacher in 1980 and since that time have taught the Gospel to over 1,100 students. Many of them have become our brothers and sisters but equally important is that the seed has been sown. Only the Lord knows the totality of good done through even one soul. In 1991 I left local work to work partially in sharing WBS with congregations throughout the United States. Since then I have spoken to over 480 congregations and I look forward to meeting many in Heaven who came to Jesus via this tool. If your congregation would like a presentation, please contact me at jim@cornerfamily.net.

WBS is used extensively in Cameroon. Jean Claude Ete has told me that 75% of all of the members of the church on the French side came via WBS. Even if the number were 10% it would be impressive. We take WBS material on every trip and give it to local churches for their outreach. Many Americans are teaching more Cameroonians than I can count via this tool. We have a great infrastructure of preachers to provide follow-up. Please pray that this work continues to flourish.

In June a team of four Americans plus myself plan to go again. Several Cameroonians will travel with us and, with the help of the Lord, we will work with 15 congregations. Be praying for those we teach. Pray for us that we will have a Christ like spirit and that Jesus will shine through us.

Make plans to attend a
WBS Benefit Dinner
in your area and invite others to join you.

August 12 – Austin, TX

August 18 – Fort Worth, TX

September 6 – Dallas, TX

September 22 – Chattanooga, TN

October 4 – Nashville, TN

November 1 – Searcy/Little Rock, AR

For details and to RSVP, please go to
worldbibleschool.net/events.

Grandkids in the Faith—from page 2



Freda and Bud with granddaughters

Adjayi definitely understood the vision of the Great Commission and now three generations of this African family are firmly planted in the Kingdom of God.

Closer to home is the story of the Crosby family. Also in the 1980s, Bud Crosby became my daughter's soccer coach. He and his family became good friends of mine. His wife Freda was a member of the church but Bud and their daughters had not been baptized. We watched the Jule Miller filmstrips and studied together. Shortly afterward Bud and the two oldest daughters were baptized into Christ, followed by the third daughter when she came of age. I recently discovered that Bud, Freda and their family have remained faithful Christians. Bud is an elder at the Holly Lake church of Christ in Hawkins, TX. Now *their* granddaughters have also been baptized. The older granddaughter Bailee just graduated from high school and will be attending Harding University in the fall. My joy at learning all this is beyond expression.

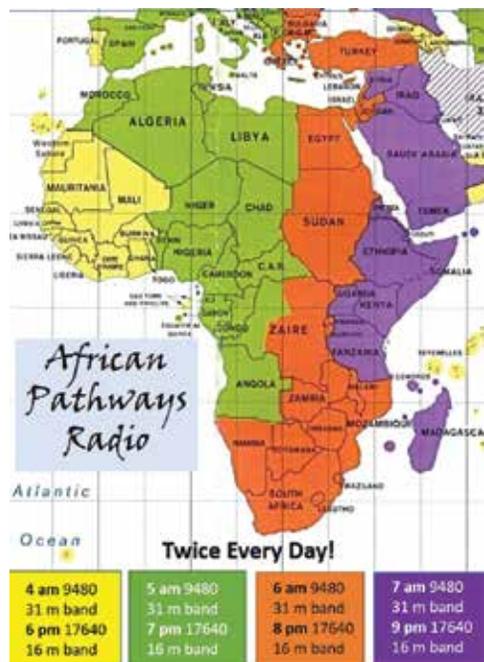
I hope that these stories will encourage others to be fervent in making disciples who will pass the Gospel to their children, grandchildren and future generations in the church. Please join us in our focus this year to make more disciples right here in the U.S. who will help, for generations to come, to restore our country to godly principles.

WCB Now Broadcasting from Madagascar!

Launch increases world coverage.

Henry Huffard, WCB Senior Producer for Africa

On March 27 World Christian Broadcasting began operations from its new station in the Indian Ocean. This station and the one in Alaska are able to reach most of the world by shortwave. Russian, Chinese and International English broadcasts have been going out from Alaska for over 30 years. Now, after many international preparations, the new station adds Arabic, Spanish and English for Africa. All languages broadcast hour-long programs a number of times each day.



WCB broadcasting time zones in Africa.
Please share this map with WBS students in these parts of Africa.

Every day in the Africa hour (known as African Pathways Radio), John Reese delivers two advertisements for free World Bible School courses. Are these being heard? Here is an excerpt from a detailed reception report received yesterday from a man in the United Kingdom. "1848 UTC—John Reese of World Bible School—enroll in a free Bible course... write to WBS address in Harare, Zimbabwe."

After the first few days of broadcasting, all the language services of World Christian

Broadcasting noticed a boost in listener responses. We know the signal is strong and clear. Listeners have written from many countries all over the world, even the United States. You can help us grow our audience in Africa by sharing the times and frequencies of our broadcasts with contacts you have there (see the map).

All language services of World Christian Broadcasting strive to appeal to a broad audience, not just those from Christian backgrounds. The hour includes a variety of programs and music intended to cultivate listeners who may tune in for one reason and stay tuned for messages about Christ and for topics from the Christian perspective.

The words of Paul come to mind. "Pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored" (2 Thessalonians 3:1).

***Editor's Note:** Doug Wheeler of the Westside church of Christ in Norman, Oklahoma, has travelled regularly to Nigeria for 33 years to encourage and assist Nigerians coordinating World Bible School follow up in that fruitful nation. Nigerians have played a crucial role in the development of WBS, as have faithful U.S. follow up evangelists Jake Coppinger, Ralph Perry and most recently Doug Wheeler. The trip reported below is Doug's final one as he is now retiring. We deeply appreciate all that he and his co-workers have accomplished during this phase of Nigeria's history.*

Thank You, Doug!

Doug Wheeler — NORMAN, Oklahoma

Thank you for sending me to Nigeria to Preach Christ and Him crucified! I have just completed my last mission trip to Nigeria, and all went well! I thank God for watching over me and the Nigerian brethren I travelled with around the southern part of Nigeria, keeping us safe and healthy as we worked for Him! This year, we conducted World Bible School Seminars in seven states: Oyo, Ogun, Ondo, Edo, Abia, Cross River and Adwa Ibom. We held three Leadership Seminars: one in Edo State and two in Akwa Ibom State. We visited two Nigerian Schools of Preaching: Southwest School of Preaching (SWSE) in Oyo State and the Nigerian Institute of Arts and Theological Studies (NIATS) in Abia State. We encouraged both staff and students at each school to continue their training of men to preach the word of God to their people.



Doug Wheeler with Nigerian preachers



Nigeria's "Great Workshop" 2016

While in Nigeria on this preaching mission, I witnessed 41 Nigerians obeying the Gospel of Christ. Not only that, but as we went on our "missionary journey" conducting our seminars, we would receive phone calls from church leaders where we had conducted a seminar a few days before, and they would report more who had been at the Seminar who later obeyed the Gospel. Wonderful!

For me, the highlight of my mission trip took place at The Great Workshop 2016—held at the Nigerian Christian Bible College (NCBC) in Ukpom-Abak, Akwa Ibom State—where attendance far exceeded anything we had imagined! The registered preachers numbered 746!

Plan to Saturate Your Community

John Reese — CEDAR PARK, Texas

Following the editorial about Mark 16:15, let's explore practical saturation. Suppose that a church of 50 members has been in a town of 50,000 for 50 years. Assuming more years, why not systematically plan to fulfil the Great Commission locally, while also reaching abroad? This is the time to repent, then prayerfully apply the wisdom God abundantly gives the single-minded (James 1:5-8). In planning, emphasize the Lord's directly-spoken priorities. That will re-align energies and funding.



But suppose that, even with generous effort and giving, only a fraction of the town can be saturated in any given year. Then do the part that can be done! Along with personal efforts, in affordable segments plan systematic mailings of World Bible School's campaign tools: *The Way* and *This is Good News*. The first year, provide attractive Gospel opportunities to one segment of, let's say, 10,000 people. The second year, target the next 10,000, and so on. After five years, start the cycle again. The task is never completed while society is dynamic. People move around for jobs. New generations grow up. Interests and avenues of communication change. In cycle after cycle, both locally and abroad, keep benefiting from lessons learned and new tools provided.

Someone may complain, "The responses do not justify this sort of money (besides, the parking lot needs re-paving)." Mark 16 reads the same whether our community is receptive or unreceptive (and whatever the parking lot's condition). We cannot force responses or guarantee growth, which limits some goal-setting. But we can set and hit reasonable goals for *distributing Gospel seed*. The increase is God's part, which He will honor fully. After all, this is His mission into which He invites us as partners (1 Corinthians 3:6-9).

Also use Connect US to reach out

Overlaying a segmented strategy, Web Ads can cover the entire population of 50,000. In any sizeable population, seekers are typing search words into their computers. Let the Gospel be there for them through WBS Connect, which also engages members as teachers. Every member can use a supply of 'business' cards pointing to an attractive Connect Web site and postal offer.

(Neutral addresses help to gain a hearing where pre-conceived ideas block reception.) Parallel to neutral tools, promote the church in community events and through publications like *House to House* (page 6).

Seekers are typing search words on the Internet. Reach them with WBS Web Ads.

Continuing the editorial thought... OK, so you are not a Coca-Cola manager facing the CEO's question, "Did you saturate your region?" But a similar meeting is scheduled for you. "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ.... Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others" (2 Corinthians 5:10-11). How will you answer the Master when He asks about "every creature" within your reach? For strategies and assistance, especially on Connect US, contact Bill Colwell at 512-345-8190 or bill@worldbibleschool.net.



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