

Find seekers. Share Jesus.

Anywhere you want, using WBS' latest teaching tool: the new, more cost-effective **Connect Web Ads 2.0** (see p6).

Imagine an apostle's reaction if he could be transported into the 21st Century: "Are you telling me that mail systems serve every country on earth? The Roman empire's couriers were remarkable, but today's systems serve the *entire world*—are you kidding me? And now you say that messages fly from here to the other side of the earth in mere moments, giving access even to ordinary people. Hard to believe, but if true, do you understand the implications for the Great Commission?"

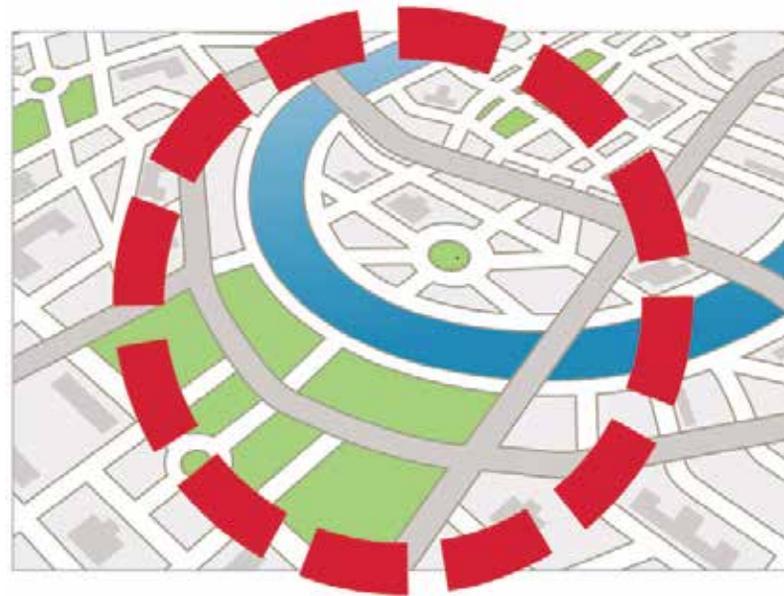
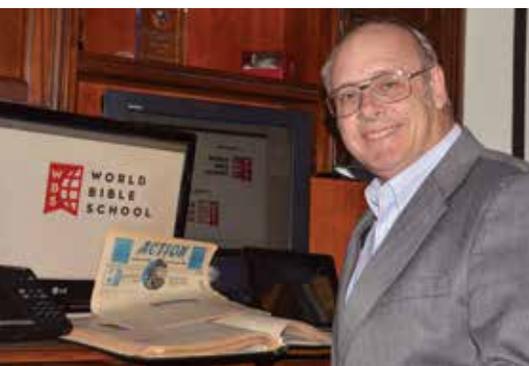
The honest answer would be, "Not fully. We're beginning to grasp the implications. But what Christians have developed is already amazing."

To which the apostle might reply, "Clearly, the Lord's mighty hand is at work. Look at the unimaginable opportunities He provides; you even have the wealth to develop the necessary tools! Show me what you've prepared so far."

That brings us to *Action!*'s 2018 theme: Tools that...

- share the Gospel effectively,
- reach near and far—locally and globally,
- mobilize ordinary Christians,
- adapt to emerging platforms and social dynamics,
- scale to millions.

Yet all of the above fails if we miss this essential component: *connecting with the lost*. To take advantage



of today's cutting-edge tools, we must develop cost-effective tools that surface and engage seekers. On page 6 of this *Action!*, explore with us the latest online improvement—**Connect Web Ads 2.0**.

"Clearly the Lord's mighty hand is at work. Look at the unimaginable opportunities He provides!"

The beauty of this tool is its benefit to your own interests. Do you want to grow your local

congregation by discovering new seekers? Do you want to boost outreach for your domestic mission point, and/or your international field? If you have been using Web Ads 1.0, you will find **Connect Web Ads 2.0** more cost-effective and productive—for the greatest mission of all, *Sharing Jesus!*

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New Postal Students: **974,261**
 New Internet Students: **159,631**
Total New Students: 1,133,892

Sharing Jesus with a Million-PLUS

We began to prepare the March issue of *Action!* in mid-January, by which time final figures for 2017 had arrived. Sherri Hays in our Cedar Park office received 974,261 new WBS postal enrollments from around the world. After recording them, she sent them to WBS teachers across the United States, usually through local coordinators. Simultaneously, Jonathan Towell tracked Internet enrollments. From these two sources come the totals for 2017 featured above.

Praise God for such a decisive breakthrough! This latest record has to do with much more than numbers—each one of these 1,133,892 is a precious soul for whom Jesus gave His life. Each one is linked with a personal tutor, a caring member of the Lord’s church like you.

By way of full disclosure, please note this: The postal figure is only the portion that passes through Sherri’s hands on its way to WBS teachers. Many others enrolled in 2017 through other

channels, mainly as referrals, and through individual WBS teachers and church programs. For example, congregations in our area near Austin enrolled well over 30,000 in 2017. The Mayfair church of Christ in Huntsville, AL reports 1,399 *confirmed* baptisms in 2017, and none of their many enrollments came through Sherri’s office. Well over 1,000 congregations use WBS. We in Cedar Park have no means for tracking their figures fully for postal students. So, we cite only the figure we know for sure, the enrollments through our Cedar Park office.

We join you in thanking the Lord for such worldwide impact. We also join you in praying for Him to break many more records—for His own glory and the fulfillment of His mission!



Tim Brumfield Reporting!

For many in Brazilian and African missions, the names Tim and Janet Brumfield are well known. Tim grew up in Portales, NM where his father George (86) is the World Bible School coordinator at the 3rd and Kilgore congregation. After Tim graduated from Sunset School of Preaching in 1981, Tim and Janet and family spent over 12 years as missionaries in Salvador, Brazil. The Lord blessed the team (Bontragers, Brumfields, McKinneys) to establish two churches that have planted twelve more self-supporting congregations in Bahia State. Since 1996, Tim has taught at Sunset International Bible Institute (SIBI) in Lubbock, and has travelled extensively for SIBI’s international work. Janet serves SIBI as Assistant to the Vice President of Ministry Training.

Tim and SIBI have long partnered with WBS. In January, Tim became full-time with WBS. He wrote this recently to long-time supporters:

My role is similar to what I’ve already been doing. I will be serving in International Relations leading World Bible School campaigns, recruiting students, developing WBS Service Centers. The plan is for me to take 3 or 4 trips per year and to focus on Portuguese-speaking countries as well as South America.

While I’m in the U.S., I will be helping to upgrade the Portuguese translation and encouraging churches to evangelize their own communities as well as any other places they choose—especially where receptivity is so high. I plan to seek out teachers in Brazil to teach students in Portuguese speaking countries. As you can see, this work dovetails with what I’ve done with Sunset. I still have an office at SIBI and I continue working with the exciting growth God is bringing about in Mozambique.



Tim (center) and Janet with their family

Movement in Mozambique

Tim Brumfield — LUBBOCK, Texas

Mozambique, along the eastern coast of Southern Africa, is crying out for Good News. Many of them are using the Portuguese language. Vasco da Gama arrived on there in 1498 and Portugal ruled for over four centuries. Nationals gained independence in 1975, but soon descended into a prolonged civil war. In 1994, elections led to a stable government, though unrest simmers at times.



I have travelled to that region nine times. The people of Mozambique have proven to be exceptionally receptive to the Gospel. Thousands of baptisms are taking place, including many entire religious groups. For example, my co-workers have reported 6,583 baptisms over nine months in 2016 in Mutarara, Tete Province.

The movement began when a denominational preacher was baptized and then took the new lessons he’d learned to 28 churches where he had previously preached. All 28 churches were baptized and they were “smashing and burning their drums.” Twelve of our evangelists taught in those churches. They received invitations from more groups. During a severe drought we sent over 17 tons of corn and beans. Even more are asking to be taught, and by October, 2016, 87 churches had been converted. My work in Mozambique has focused on training evangelists and leaders, and strengthening the new churches.

Imagine the huge task of maturing so many new people. Most came from religions that attract people with wild dancing parties, and that pressure continues. Some are undermined by those who

It's Somebody's Mission



I have many fond memories of my grandfather...his hands, his smile, his calm demeanor, but most importantly, his love and commitment to God. I remember so many of his stories and their

lessons. One I remember most of all was a story he told of the "Land of Somewhere." "Somewhere" was a place where *everybody* wanted *somebody* to do *something* that *anybody* could do, but *nobody* did because *everybody* was waiting on *somebody* else to do it. When it comes to sharing the Gospel and the Great Commission, let 2018 be the year you are the "somebody" who actually partners with WBS as never before.

As you have seen from the January *Action!*, the WBS Toolbox is full of so many tools to help your congregation and you share Jesus. Did you realize the best tool in God's hand is YOU?



I'm reminded of a great verse in Isaiah 6:8 where we read, "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for Us?' And I said, 'Here am I, send me!'"

You can be the partner God sends to accelerate the spreading of the Gospel. As God blesses you financially, keep the WBS Toolbox full and up-to-date—ready for seekers and students who desperately need Jesus and His saving message through God's Word.

In this third month of 2018, I wish you could see the WBS tool-makers at work. A dream-team is developing Gospel-sharing via social media, purposefully meeting the needs of newer generations. WBS in Portuguese (EBM) is receiving a major upgrade. **Connect Web Ads 2.0** is being launched (see page 6). WBS is investing *seriously* in the best Toolbox with tools that make eternal differences. To be successful, WBS must have serious supporters, whatever their giving ability. The time is now and the "somebody" is you! WBS is You. Sharing Jesus. Speed the Good News forward this month by mail or online at worldbibleschool.net/give.

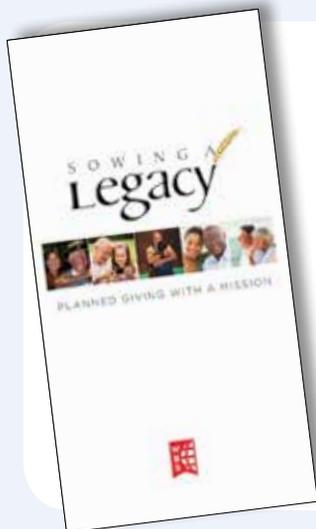
Pat Brown is always available to talk to friends of WBS—individuals and churches. Contact him at pat@worldbibleschool.net.

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With planned gifts, you can:

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Contact Kevin Rhodes to request this brochure and to learn more: legacy@worldbibleschool.net; 800-311-2006.



Editor: John Reese

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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.

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Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Their Relationship to Honoree _____

Honoring WBS Heroes

Loyce Grubbs Horn

Loyce first heard about World Bible School in 1977 when the Sun Valley church of Christ sent her on a mission trip to St. Lucia, West Indies. Highly motivated, she began teaching via postal mail, then progressed to email, and is now a web study helper with students from all over the world.



After the passing of her husband, Phillip Grubbs, she married Don Horn in 1981. They attended the Skillman church of Christ, where she was instrumental in setting up WBS.

Skillman sponsored their work with the African Christian College in Swaziland. They followed-up on receptive WBS students, while pursuing and teaching new students when they traveled in Swaziland, Nigeria and Jamaica. The Horns retired in Houston, but after the passing of Don and at the age of 82, she moved back to Dallas. She volunteered as secretary for the Main Street church of Christ and coordinated the WBS program there.

Now 91, Loyce is back in Houston helping lead the WBS program at Southbelt church of Christ. She began the WBS Connect effort to reach her community, and has a personal campaign URL for her own students. She works daily teaching WBS students and is thrilled when she gets a new student or a soul is saved through baptism.

The above wording and photo, in the form of an attractive plaque, grace the Wall of Honor at World Bible School's home in Cedar Park, TX. Loyce was then 91, and thoroughly enjoyed the honoring event at Cedar Park. She graduated to glory in December, 2017.

Honoring such laborers in the Lord is a biblical concept (Romans 12:10; 16:1-16; 1 Corinthians 16:18). You likely know a WBS teacher, coordinator or supporter who should be honored. For details about how the WBS Wall of Honor works, contact Sheryl Williams at sheryl@worldbibleschool.net and 512-345-8190.

Shep Strong

Beginning in 1991, Shep served on the World Bible School Board for 27 years. He was chairman of the Board 2005-2011, providing critical guidance with unique knowledge of procedural and legal matters as they affected WBS. Shep passed away February 9 in Austin, TX following a struggle with cancer, and will be sorely missed.

Shep met Karen Hughes at Abilene Christian College. They graduated and married in 1973. In Dallas, Shep worked for the Arthur Andersen company as an auditor. After completing his CPA, they moved to Austin to attend the University of Texas School of Law. He was a partner in several law firms before establishing his solo law practice in 2003. He was board certified in tax. In addition to his work with WBS, he served as an elder for more than 20 years in Austin. An Eagle Scout, Shep dedicated many hours to the Boy Scouts of America, serving recently on the Capitol Area Council Executive Committee.

Shep leaves behind Karen, two children, Shep and Katherine, a son-in-law Garrett, and a grandson Isaac, along with many loved ones. He is greatly honored by family and friends.



from page 2

Tim Brumfield: *If you are like 95% of us, you struggle to evangelize your neighbors. WBS has now set in place a new, improved strategy to help you do this in a very natural, non-threatening way. Wouldn't it be great if you could find truth-seekers locally? Now WBS will help you find them and you will be the one teaching them either on the Internet or by paper correspondence.*

Mozambique: ...add rules for salvation that God does not require. What is most needed is healthy knowledge of the Bible. WBS is taking the important step of updating WBS courses in Portuguese, and preparing the improved courses for print in Mozambique. In order to help meet the needs of a growing movement, we must use all the means available, shipping where possible and also printing within country. If you are able to assist with these needs, please contact John Reese at john@worldbibleschool.net or me at timb@worldbibleschool.net.



Here to Serve: Richard Patton

Richard serves as Church Relations Representative for World Bible School in Cedar Park, TX. Along with Bill Colwell and others, Richard works with congregations to establish new WBS teaching programs, trains teachers and helps congregations improve their existing programs. He represents WBS by giving presentations to interested churches and at brotherhood events.

Richard came to WBS from Longmont, CO where he and his wife, LeeAnne, were both employed by The Mountains States Children's Home. LeeAnne worked in the office at the children's home while Richard worked as the store manager for the Children's Home thrift store. Richard also served as one of the original board members of the Hopelight Medical Clinic which is a free health clinic in Longmont. The clinic was started as a ministry by the Longmont church of Christ, where they attended.

During 31 years of marriage, Richard and LeeAnne have moved often—Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, Colorado—and been actively involved in each congregation wherever they lived. Last fall they moved to Leander, TX on the northwest side of Austin to begin work for WBS. Richard now likes to introduce himself and his wife as "Richard and LeeAnne from Leander." This has such a nice ring to it! Contact Richard at richard@worldbibleschool.net or call the office at 512-345-8190.



Web Ads 2.0...Local WBS Outreach Made Even Better!

For many years WBS has equipped churches and individuals to use WBS Connect for targeted outreach to their communities and mission points around the world. With both traditional advertising and with Web Ads advertising, people could use time-tested WBS tools and teaching techniques to help their neighbors learn about Jesus. While traditional advertising campaigns continue to work as always, on January 10th WBS launched the updated **Web Ads 2.0**. And with that update a great tool has been made even better.

SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS

WBS Web Ads 2.0 provides significant improvements to the original Web Ads.

- 1. More students.** With Web Ads 2.0, changes to how students are located and assigned should yield more students than comparably-funded online advertising under the old system.
- 2. More cost-effective.** With Web Ads 2.0, you only pay for each student you adopt and for every WBS course they complete. Before, you paid for every time someone viewed your ad—whether they enrolled to study or not. Now your Web Ads budget pays for new students and for student progress, nothing more.
- 3. Easier to fund.** Your funding for Web Ads 2.0 is still considered a “donation” to WBS, but the process has changed. Under the old system, WBS sent you a monthly invoice reflecting online ad activity. With Web Ads 2.0, you fund your Web Ads account *up front* using a credit card online or by mailing a check to WBS. Each time you adopt a new student, we deduct \$5 from your account to help cover advertising costs. Similarly, each time a student completes a course, we deduct 50 cents. The benefit to you? The data is clear that most churches will be able to adopt and

WBS CONNECT USES WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL'S TOOLS TO HELP YOU FIND AND TEACH PEOPLE WHO WANT TO STUDY THE BIBLE. TARGET YOUR COMMUNITY AND MISSION POINTS. SEEKERS WHO ENROLL ARE AVAILABLE ONLY TO YOU AND YOUR WBS STUDY HELPERS.



teach the same number of students as before but for significantly less money. When your account balance gets low, we send you an email reminder to replenish it so that ads can continue finding seekers for you. You can see every transaction in your account, including deposits and deductions for new students and courses completed. Ultimately, you will have total control of your Web Ads efforts, able to share Jesus with more souls.

SIMPLE TO GET STARTED

Setting up and funding a new Web Ads 2.0 campaign is simple. Choose a target location, fund your account and teach those who enroll. Go to www.vimeo.com/247862185 and watch the short instructional video to see how it's done. Read more generally about *WBS Connect* by downloading the FAQ at worldbibleschool.net/resources. Be sure to call us at 512-345-8190 if you have questions.

Share Jesus with

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Love Notes

To Frank Calloway, WBS Web Study Helper:

I just wanted to say thank you to whoever keeps this web site up and running. What a wonderful tool to learn more about my Father in heaven! This wonderful site has become a place for me to continue learning and knowing God. Thank you so much for this wonderful service! I was surprised when I was first shown this site by a friend of mine. It is good to know so we can share it with the people who want to receive grace from our God. [My prayer:] "Father, I give you thanks for your mercy and faithfulness to me. I also thank you very much for Frank who accepted to help me to know you through Bible—your word. Please God, bless him and his co-workers. In Jesus' name. Amen." Your student, Jerome [a father, with wife and three daughters in a refugee camp in Kenya].

To WBS' Tim Brumfield:

This [WBS' summary of 2017] makes me weep with joy. How wonderful to know the impact that WBS is having. God bless you in your mission to spread His Gospel everywhere. We will pray for your health, your family and the productive fruit of your mission.

L. Chandler

Thank you, Jonathan!

Since 2011, Jonathan Towell has led WBS' charge into the exciting world of digital evangelism. Prior to that, from 1995, Kit Mullins had paved the way. Like Kit, Jonathan is a dedicated disciple blessed with enormous drive and vision. He is a prolific reader of spiritual, technical, business and social writings. He tracks trends and learns from success models. He likes to quote ice hockey great Wayne Gretzky: "A good hockey player plays where the puck is. A great hockey player plays where the puck is going to be." Applied to evangelistic opportunities, that means anticipating tomorrow today, being prepared fully for the future.

During his six years with WBS, Jonathan built new architecture for teaching the WBS Master Series (the same content as in print). He has built new systems for Connect and online advertising (see page 6)—all being efficient, cost-effective evangelistic tools. Looking ahead, Jonathan also launched WBS toward sharing Jesus through social media. For these purposes, Jonathan has worked tirelessly—with an increasing load in the last two years—to realize the colossal potential of digital evangelism. At the turn of the year, Jonathan announced to us his decision to return to his former software company in Lubbock. Since that announcement, the transition has gone well with Jonathan's assistance. Our mutual resolution is to keep the positive momentum going for interactive evangelism. Jonathan says, "I'm a big fan of WBS and I'm glad that we continue working together." We look forward to Jonathan's ongoing partnership as he serves the Lord in his new business role.



Welcome, Tim Yeager

In the Lord's providence, Jonathan Towell and WBS leaders already had a growing relationship with Tim Yeager of Birmingham, AL. Like Jonathan, Tim received excellent training at Harding University where Tim earned a B.S. in Interactive Media and an M.B.A. (2009). Tim is married to Katie Edwards, and the Lord has blessed them with six children. While in Searcy, he was Director of Technology and Web Development for Truth for Today. In Birmingham, he served Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama as a Web Data Analyst and Wunderman as a Senior Digital Strategist handling advanced accounts such as Gerber Life and Mutual of Omaha. Most recently he has been the Children's Minister at the Riverchase church of Christ.



All along, Tim used his expanding experience in digital marketing and analytics for the Kingdom. "I want to use the talent God has given me to reach the lost and strengthen the church with digital efforts." Accordingly, Tim's "Ichthus Digital" empowers online presence for churches. He continues to attend the Riverchase church of Christ. We are deeply grateful for this mission-minded congregation, and for Tim's willingness to extend his outreach efforts. All of us are moving forward in faith. We request your prayers for the Kingdom's increasing impact in America and around the world.

Prayers for Jena

We are prayerful for Jena Madeley, our WBS colleague, first in thankfulness. Along with Edie Connel, Mike Ross and Tiffany Sanders, Jena supports WBS Internet teachers and students, enhancing their online experience. Jena brings unique experiences and a gift for details. Born in Dalhart, TX, she graduated from Texas A&M (B.S. in Geography), and served with several defense contractors at Dyess AFB, Abilene, for 22 years. She attends the Baker Heights church of Christ, and spent half of 2016 at that congregation's mission in Zambia, Chipata Bible College, where she taught communications to first year students and assisted in the business office. With WBS, she completed the ESV conversion project and followup mapping that connects national Christians with responsive students.



Jena teaches children in Zambia.

We are prayerful also for Jena's health. She was diagnosed with cancer last November and should finish chemo treatments by the end of March. Reports so far are encouraging, and Jena has insisted on carrying as much of her work load as possible. Please join us in thanking God for Jena, and also in petitioning Him on her behalf and ours—as she is such a valuable part of our team.

The Antioch Initiative

Richard Patton — CEDAR PARK, Texas

Someone has said, “If you plant a church, you may or may not get a disciple, but if you make a disciple, you always get a church.” That statement’s latter part has proved true many times as WBS students have demonstrated their faith as true disciples by teaching and converting others—and a New Testament church blossoms where previously there was none.

There is a new effort underway to establish churches, here in the USA, in places without churches of Christ. The effort is called The Antioch Initiative (www.aicoc.org), overseen by the elders of the Elmore church of Christ in Alabama. The mission is to make disciples first. By using mature disciples as mentors for new disciples, the plan is to grow a maturing church then move on to the next community and repeat the process.



Elmore elder Jimmy Davis, and evangelist and Faulkner professor Don Myers visiting Cedar Park

It was natural that Antioch Initiative would soon partner with WBS to provide follow up for responsive students without a church nearby to assist them. An Antioch Initiative teacher will follow up on WBS referrals for baptisms in the U.S. and will also recruit mentors to further disciple these new Christians. The Antioch Initiative plans to help these new Christians become the church where they live.

Here is an excerpt from a report by an AI leader, Don Myers:

I was joyful to participate in the first house-church gathering with Carl and Stacy by means of SKYPE in their New York home today. Carl was baptized as a result of World Bible School sending us a referral of follow-up. They both are interested in forming a house-church and inviting their friends to join them in their home on the first day of the week. They shared in the Lord’s Supper. Carl delivered part of a Bible lesson and I assisted him to finish it. A song of praise was sung. Carl offered a prayer. More will be done in the future as I teach God’s word to this precious couple.

I shared the dream of discipleship with them, urging them to think of growing to the point of teaching others. I told them we pray a time will come when their house-church grows beyond their apartment, necessitating another house-church



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meeting in Brooklyn. Care will be taken to teach these souls that God’s word is the authority in our lives. What happened today points back to a time when the church met in the homes of Lydia, Philemon and others. This day, I pray, will become a part of the beginning-history of an evangelistic movement that will sweep the land.

