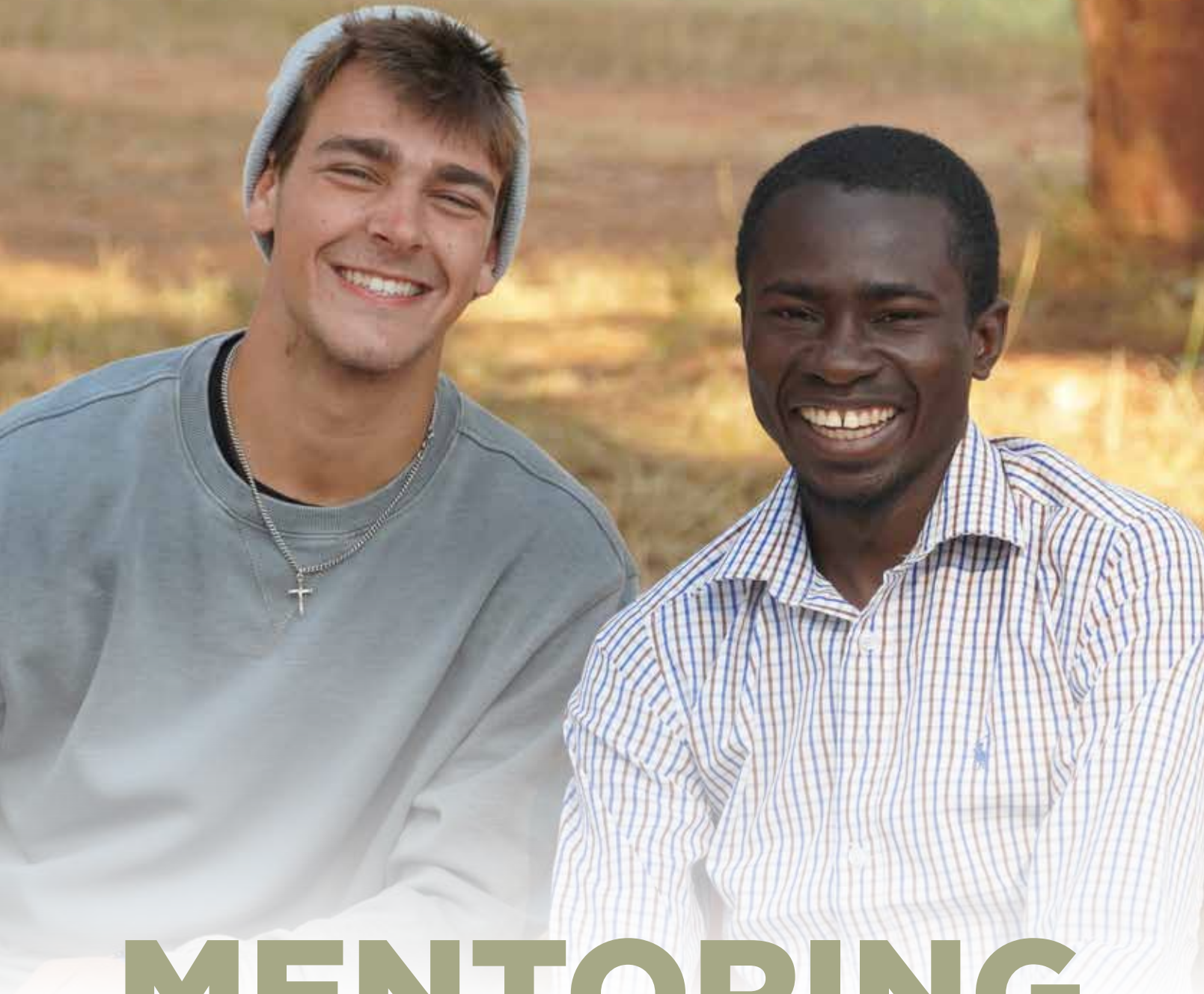




ACTION!

MAGAZINE | WINTER 2025



MENTORING IN MISSION

MENTORING IN MISSION

BY BRIAN REX DAVIS | ACTION! EDITOR & WBS PRESIDENT



Mentoring in mission has been a part of my ministry life since I was trained to be a missionary in the Project Good News Program, overseen by the Hillsboro church of Christ in Nashville, Tennessee. Great missionary veterans came from around the world to show us how to best prepare to share our faith cross-culturally.

Thinking back to earlier years, I have been mentored all of my life since choosing to follow Christ and participate in His mission. From my father, grandfather and

uncles to faithful elders and Bible teachers, my maturity and effectiveness has been shaped by mentors who believed in me as a young Christian man. And though many of my mentors have passed on to be with the Lord, their investment in my life is still working its eternal influence.

Our goals for 2025 with ACTION! Magazine is to encourage Christian mentoring by:

1. Providing encouraging Bible articles from faithful teachers in the brotherhood who will renew us with the words of life.
2. Calling us to ACTION! in our daily walk as we participate in the mission of Jesus.

3. Equipping us with creative tools that help us to grow in our discipleship to Christ while providing us with effective means to disciple the world for Christ.

As we strive for these goals, we need your help!

We will continue sending copies of ACTION! Magazine to congregations, but many people prefer to receive ACTION! Magazine at their home address. Please share the QR code below with anyone who may be interested in receiving an individual copy of ACTION! Magazine at their home address. Also be sure to subscribe to our online ACTION! Newsletter.

COMING SOON



ACTION!

PODCASTS



Introducing a new channel for podcasts produced by World Bible School.

ACTION! Podcasts will pursue the same three goals we have established for ACTION! Magazine within the medium of video podcasts. Our podcast channel is designed to be interactive. We want to hear and respond to your questions and feedback.

Our first series to be released is called “One More Chapter with Brian Rex Davis” Tune in to be encouraged by stories of how God is changing lives and how His ancient wisdom can equip each of us for today’s challenges in life!

Subscribe online to our ACTION! Email Newsletter to receive updates regarding our new series and be notified of our first podcast release.

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*Individual mailings of ACTION!
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INTRODUCING THE BRAND NEW



LIBRARY

VISIT WBSLIBRARY.ORG

The WBS Library is all-digital. It will be dynamic, ever growing, attractively designed and practical, drawing readers to the Gospel and the call of discipleship in Jesus Christ.



BY JOHN REESE | PRESIDENT EMERITUS



The WBS Library serves a number of strategic purposes for world evangelism. Consider, for example, the five basic courses of the WBS Master Series in Mandarin Chinese, which was translated from English some time ago. The courses in Chinese are a valuable resource with the potential for benefiting millions who speak and read Mandarin in China and some 50 million souls from other parts of the globe. However, WBS lacked sufficient Chinese teachers for its typical interactive model that pairs each seeker with a Christian volunteer teacher (Study Helper). In the meantime, while WBS works to build a teaching base, we want to make the Mandarin Master Series available for Chinese seekers now! The WBS Library is the solution. As you encounter Chinese speakers locally, in your international travels or on social media, you can share the WBS Library website.

Similarly, the Master Series has been translated into Swahili, Russian, Telegu, Hindi and other languages. As these are posted to the WBS Library, they will be announced so that you can inform friends who can benefit.

Resources

In addition to our various translations of the Master Series, we also look to add to the WBS Library the Mathetis Original courses: Wondering What to Believe, In Need of a Savior and Seeking the Family of God. These are already available with full interactivity on the Mathetis app and Mathetis.org. The WBS Library in no way replaces Mathetis, but provides an additional avenue for easy access to the 30 videos (10 videos in all three courses) and “Digging Deeper” articles for further study. Like any modern library, this digital library will allow for multiple formats catering to reading, viewing and listening.

Another resource to become available is the first installment—Matthew—of the Commentary on the New Testament in Basic English, edited by the late Van Tate. Van was a missionary to Kenya for many years. He saw the need for a commentary that was in basic English and sensitive to the questions and concerns that so many around the world have. Van and his family graciously granted the book’s copyright to WBS. Over the years, WBS has been the beneficiary of valuable works like this, which now can be made available in our library.

WBS Courses

The Master Series courses have been used to teach millions. Their effectiveness comes from God’s Word, the seed of salvation. While these seven courses present the Gospel repeatedly and well, they lack space to answer some questions commonly raised by seekers and new converts. Thus began the development of the Advanced Courses to mature and to meet spiritual needs: Effective Evangelism, Lord, Teach Us To Pray, Balancing Faith and Works, Roles in the Family of God, Test the Spirits and the Covenants Series. All courses seek to represent the

full and fair Biblical picture of their respective subjects, with a gentle but persuasive tone. All are focused on Christ and the Bible. All 10 WBS Advanced Courses are designed for interaction in 13 lessons, equally suitable for personal study or for Bible class and small group studies.

The Source

All materials—present and planned—support New Testament Christianity. For example, the WBS Advanced Courses, A History of God’s People and Understanding the Bible, along with the booklet Guide to New Testament Christianity, present Biblical principles as the Lord restores us to Christianity as He intended. Restoration is simply the result of sincerely and practically confessing, “Jesus is Lord.” Amid many voices and changing winds of doctrine, listen to the one voice of the one Shepherd. Where do we hear Him? The only reliable source is the Bible. In the Scriptures, Jesus Himself says that His Spirit reveals all truth to the apostles and prophets. With Himself as the cornerstone, they form the foundation on which Jesus builds His temple of praise to the one Father (Ephesians 2:18-22). So, the resources of the WBS Library go back to the message revealed by God’s Son and His inspired spokesmen.

He is the one Lord who gives one faith, one hope and one baptism into one body. He neither creates nor sanctions today’s conflicting faiths and religious bodies. If Christ truly is Lord, if He truly has “all authority,” His is the only name and the only body into which we are baptized (Acts 19:5; 1 Corinthians 1:13; 12:13; Ephesians 4:5). Separate bodies are not part of His plan. When we obey the Gospel, He adds us to the one church, the one that submits to Him as Head, the one He saves by His sacrifice (Acts 2:47; Eph 5:22-24).

Challenges

The confession “Jesus is Lord” is easy to say but challenging to implement. For example, in early centuries, those who misunderstood the Lord’s Supper accused the early church of

cannibalism. They called the early Christians “atheists” for not accepting the many gods that all accepted in that culture.

In the same way, the very notion of belonging just to Christ and His church is misunderstood, even opposed, by those today who think only in terms of denominational divisions. They accuse members of Christ’s church of pride, intolerance and, ironically, sectarianism. Unfortunately, some, even in the kingdom, earn criticisms that others indiscriminately apply to genuine Christians. They are the weeds and the bad fish that Jesus warned us to expect (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43, 47-50).

Sociologists, historians, statisticians and other academicians work with categories that require Christians to belong to one denomination or another. Their earthly definitions, however, do not determine heavenly realities. If one God and Father has one spiritual family, that is the family into which the new birth places us. If one Head has one body, that is the body in which we should serve. Shall we alter the truth as taught by our Lord to fit today’s culture and its sociological groupings? In the end, all that matters is our Lord and His recognition of His own. “The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him” (1 John 3:1 cf. 2 Timothy 2:19).

As in the early centuries, the pressure to conform with the majority is intense. There is a high price to meaning the confession “Jesus is Lord.” To pay the price, to withstand the pressure, requires genuine faith in Christ. That faith comes from His Word. We listen to the voice of the Shepherd and follow where He leads. That is why the study of God’s Word is so essential, which becomes all the more true as pressure increases internally and externally. Are you looking for healthy teaching in line with the confession “Jesus is Lord,” which promotes His one faith, one hope and one baptism into one body? If so, we invite you to benefit from the WBS Library which promotes Christ and His New Testament Christianity.

NEW FACES AT WBS



BY KELSEY TAYLOR

WBS COMPTROLLER
CEDAR PARK, TEXAS

As we begin 2025, World Bible School is blessed to welcome two new members to our team. We are always encouraged when God connects us to people that bring in fresh talent and experience, and who are eager to put their unique gifts to work at WBS.

Our Support department was thrilled to add Travena Rogan, from Lebanon, Tennessee as a Support Associate at the start of the year. Travena has a strong background in customer service, working primarily in the healthcare industry, and we are looking forward to having her share her skills and knowledge with WBS. She also speaks at Christian women's events across the country.

Regarding her new role, Travena writes, "Perfect is not what I seek to be, but a follower of Jesus is where my footsteps will be. I've prayed periodically to be able to work in ministry and God has tremendously blessed me. I am humbly excited to be a part of the Support Team and further the Kingdom through WBS."

In more good news, Joshua Cook joined WBS in early February as a Regional Advancement Representative for his home state of Tennessee, where he lives in Rockvale. With a master's degree in Ministry from Freed-Hardeman University, Josh has served as a minister in multiple congregations of the Lord's church throughout Tennessee, and he is ready to continue his path with WBS.

Josh shares, "What an honor it is to serve World Bible School and to offer congregations the means to advance God's kingdom on earth. The future of Christianity is indeed bright, beloved. For my part, I'm truly excited to support this visionary organization as it continues to shine the Gospel light in such an attractive, effective, and inviting way."

We are grateful for the opportunity to grow our team here at WBS, and know that God has great plans in store for both Travena and Josh in 2025.



Travena, Rogan
Support Associate
Lebanon, Tennessee



Josh Cook
Regional Adv Rep
Rockvale, Tennessee

Want to serve the Lord's church with us at WBS?

We are currently seeking new full and part-time positions within our Support, Marketing, Finance, Advancement and Church Relations departments.

If you are interested in joining our team, please send your resume and a short letter sharing why you would like to work with us to help@worldbibleschool.net.



Reason Zikhali

Reason Zikhali, a student at Southern Africa Bible College, has a wonderful story of transformation as a former WBS Student! Watch his video by scanning the QR Code.

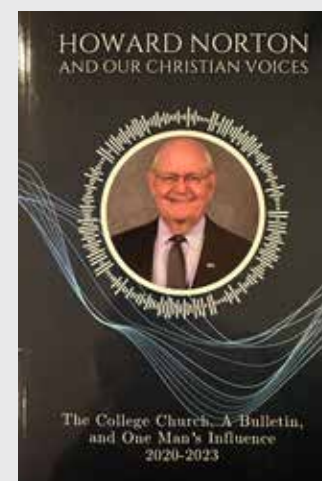


Sondra Davis and Brother Reason at the Southern Africa Bible College Lectures.

Concord Road church of Christ Zambia Prison Ministry

The Concord Road church of Christ in Nashville, Tennessee uses Ocean Bridge to teach inmates within their Zambia prison outreach ministry. David Harper, pictured far right, reports through Ocean Bridge they have distributed about **1,000 Intro lessons**, which led to **83 baptisms in November**.

Concord Road partners with 14 prisons in Zambia and has had almost 800 baptism total from their ministry.



The College Church Communication Ministry has published a book called "Howard Norton and Our Christian Voices: The College Church, A Bulletin, and One Man's Influence 2020-2023."

This book is a tribute to Howard Norton and a chronicle of one chapter in the history of College Church in Searcy. Part one presents Howard as his children knew him growing up in Brazil and elsewhere. Part two focuses on his influence as chair of the College Church Communication Ministry during and after the pandemic. He used his position to encourage wider participation in faith conversations in our bulletin, as a selection of articles by our members illustrate, providing snapshots of a congregation fulfilling its mission in tough times. A brief third part features the "voice" of Howard in one of his most well known sermons.

Together, these elements offer a portrait of how much good can be accomplished by the "faithful presence" of a single Christian.

Available on Amazon as a Kindle E-book (\$9.99) or paperback (\$14.99). Proceeds go to cover publishing costs and, beyond that, to charitable entities of the Norton family's choosing. Howard served many visionary years as the WBS Board Chairman.

MENTORING IN CHRISTIAN BUSINESS

BY BRIAN WHITE | WBS BOARD MEMBER



Artisan Leaders is program being launched in 2025 by a group of Christian entrepreneurs, focused on effectively “integrating our faith into the workplace”.

Interested in learning more? See page 11.

I was blessed to be raised in a faithful Christian home as a child. My father was an elder in the church and my mother was a Bible class teacher and active in loving and serving others. We were extremely involved in our church family, but I attended public school where I was the only Christian I knew of and most of my school friends experimented with (or recreationally used) alcohol and drugs. That is when the pressure to compartmentalize my life began.

When I graduated from college and embarked on my career, I found myself being on my own, living in a new city, forging new relationships. I was trying to be successful working 60 hours a week in an accounting firm that valued profits, long hours and a selling out of everything else in life in order to ultimately “make Partner” and be financially secure for life. Yes, I encountered good moral people who were kind and demonstrated honesty and integrity. However, my colleagues were generally not led by their faith, nor focused on transforming themselves into disciples of Jesus.

Why Does It Matter?

It matters because most Christians find themselves in a similar workplace environment. At work, we are isolated and alone on an island surrounded by the world --- enticing us to conform to its values and practices in order to ‘be successful’ and be elevated into more lucrative positions of management and leadership.

We find ourselves becoming chameleons trying to look like them, walk like them, talk like them and work like them – all without overtly violating our Christian values. We strive to “win at their game, in their way” while trying to “do no wrong” by Biblical standards. The question we must ask ourselves is, “am I serving God at home and church, but serving man at work?” Let it never be.

Compartmentalization

The pressure to succeed at work, leads most of us to compartmentalization – an approach to life where we adopt different personas for different areas of life. We try to be faithful and ‘spiritually locked in’ at worship on Sunday, Bible class on Wednesday and at devotionals, fellowships and church retreats. We truly desire to be faithful Christians – walking, talking and acting like Jesus in those settings. But the workplace is just ‘different’ ... right? So, we resort to just keeping our faith and spiritual walk to ourselves during the work week. Consequently, we are on our own to fight-the-fight against the temptation of ‘conforming to this world’ (Romans 12:2) to succeed at the game of business, and we rationalize our way into compartmentalization.

Faith Integration

Living a compartmentalized life doesn’t work! It’s lonely, it’s discouraging, and it saps the JOY that Jesus offers in His promise that we “may have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). Maintaining two separate

lives is hard – it’s heavy. It’s also inconsistent with the most important commandment to “love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength” (Mark 12:30). How are we doing that if we ‘back-burner’ our faith while in the workplace? So where do we turn to learn how to live a faith-integrated life?

When Jesus chose his apostles, He didn’t apply a model of “a sermon on Sunday and a mid-week Bible class on Wednesday” to grow the faith and transform the lives of His disciples. He didn’t just lecture them with the truth and then send them on their way to figure out for themselves how to apply it to their specific, individual lives. He walked ‘alongside’ them – every day, in the marketplace, along the walking paths, at meals and during major life events. He mentored and counseled them through daily situations in order to wisely apply spiritual principles in teachable moments.

It’s easy to sit and passively listen to spiritual truths being taught from the pulpit, or to even participate in a class discussion answering questions posed by a Bible class teacher among like-minded Christians. What is hard is to have a faith that works (James 2:14-24) when you are isolated among co-workers who might label you as a narrow-minded intolerant Bible-thumper, or who can influence or hinder your next promotion.

In those times, we need a strong foundation of faith and a proven spiritual support system of mentors we lean into who understand us well enough to exhort, train, and develop us. This gives us the confidence to truly rely on Jesus’ promises, rather than buckling under the pressures to conform to the world and retreat into compartmentalization.

How Do We Do That?

Integrating your faith into

the workplace is challenging. Professional athletes have personal coaches, CEOs retain executive coaches, and the apostles in the first century had a teacher and mentor in Jesus. We need to seek out spiritually mature mentors who can guide, challenge and exhort us in the application of Christian principles in all aspects of our life – including the workplace! Bottom line – they can help answer our questions ... and question our answers!

I encourage you to seek out experienced spiritually mature mentors who can offer seasoned counsel through trying times, exhorting you to “be transformed by the renewing of your mind” (Romans 12:2). We must never allow ourselves to be “Christians at home, but employees at work” – we never take the Christian hat off! Trusted spiritual advisors will exhort you in the spiritual disciplines as you integrate your faith at home, among your church family, and yes, even in the workplace – thus helping you THRIVE as God intended.

Finally, not only should we seek out mentors to help us, but we should be concerned for the interest of others (Philippians 2:4; Mark 10:45), striving to be a mentor and encourager. Even our own failures can become valuable experiences when the learnings are applied and then shared with others. When you seek opportunities to mentor others, it will make you a better ‘mentee’, but you will also experience personal, professional and spiritual growth through that relationship as well.

In my 30+ year business career, I learned that even secular business leaders find the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) to be REMARKABLE and highly beneficial in the workplace. Like Daniel, when we practice Godly principles while performing at high levels, God will be honored and glorified – even among nonbelievers!

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Editorial Note: Though we do not sell ad space, ACTION! Magazine will include an informational ad from a sister ministry, congregation, product seller or service provider when helpful to the brotherhood's mission. I asked Brian White, who serves on the WBS Board and who also leads the Artisan Leaders business mentoring program, to provide an ad in this issue for Artisan Leaders. I have not seen a program like this in the arena of mentoring Christians in the business world. Personally, I have benefitted greatly from Artisan Leaders as I have tried to grow in my skills and leadership for WBS.

-Brian Rex Davis



ARTISAN LEADERS
Learn. Grow. Execute

God-honoring business forums helping Christians thrive in their work, family and faith.

To help Christians access and develop deep relationships with spiritually-minded mentors, a leadership development and mentoring organization called Artisan Leaders is being launched in 2025 by a group of Christian entrepreneurs, focused on effectively "integrating our faith into the workplace". Members participate in monthly meetings of eight to ten members committed to transparency and accountability and are led by experienced God-honoring coaches applying spiritual principles to workplace challenges and the development of key business skills and capabilities.

Artisans Leaders Model

- Serving Christians in the workplace at all levels: *Apprentice, Journeyman, Master Craftsman*
- Coach-led monthly meetings with eight to ten peers.
- Employing technology, resources, tools & processes
- High quality professional and personal development content
- Build mentor & peer-to-peer relationships
- Network with like-minded Christians across geographies and experience/expertise levels

If you are interested in learning more about Artisan Leaders, please visit artisanleaders.org



LETTING JESUS MENTOR US

BY ERIC OWENS | MINISTER, ROUND ROCK, TX



“A mentor is a trusted counselor or guide who provides advice and support, often in a professional or academic context. They help individuals grow and develop by sharing their knowledge and experience.” Given this definition of the word mentor, it would be impossible to do better than to let Jesus mentor us.

Jesus Is Qualified to Mentor Us

The birth of Christ was prophesied (Isaiah 7:14). When the prophecy was fulfilled these words were used. “Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us” (Matthew 1:22-23). When we let Jesus mentor us, we are allowing God to mentor us.

Jesus Came to Mentor Us

Another prophecy about our Lord’s coming is that He would build God’s house. This means God would have a household or children in his family (Ephesians 3:15; 1 Timothy 3:15). Speaking of Christ coming to build God’s house, Isaiah also said He would do something very specific when He came: He would mentor us.

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem” (Isaiah 2:2-3).

Note the very important phrase, “He will teach us of his ways.” Christ came to teach us the ways

of God. He is God with us and He will teach us of his ways. If we are disciples of Christ or Christians we are learners and Christ is our teacher.

Jesus Invites Us to Be Mentored

Amazingly, Christ is both teacher and subject to be learned. Christ invites sinners to lay down their burdens and come to Him for mentoring and relief. “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30).

Consider the kindness and graciousness of God. The Divine nature took on flesh. He came to earth and became one of us (John 1:14). He is God with us, He came to teach us His ways and invites us to come learn of Him (Acts 17:27).

Jesus’ Record of Mentoring

The apostles and early disciples were mentored by Jesus. When Peter and John’s bold stance for truth was noticed, Christ’s mentoring was evidenced. “Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus” (Acts 4:13).

Their inspired writings gave evidence to Christ’s mentorship. Luke wrote, “That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed” (Luke 1:4). The things we needed certainty in believing was the life of Christ. “The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach” (Acts 1:1).

How Can Jesus Mentor Us?

The last phrase of Acts 1:1, tells us how Christ mentors; all that Jesus

did and taught. We have the life and teaching of Christ recorded for us in Scripture. Every time we come to Scripture we can be mentored by Jesus. His actions are the perfect example to emulate. His teachings are the words to conform our lives to, yield our spirits to, and obey.

Anything Christ did as it pertains to life and godliness is the thing we should learn and do. Any characteristic Christ possessed and demonstrated is that which we should make a part of our character. His thoughts must become our thoughts (Philippians 2:5). His words must become our words (John 6:63, 68). His deeds must become our deeds (1 Peter 2:21-25).

Jesus is the definitive answer and example of every subject for life. Whatever He did or whatever He taught, is the answer. If you will live the abundant life you desire, Jesus came to give it to you (John 10:10). If you will be saved, Jesus is your Savior (Matthew 1:23). If you desire to have peace with God, Jesus is your peace (Ephesians 2:16). If you desire to have a great marriage, Jesus is the perfect husband (Ephesians 5:22-33).

Jesus came to earth, God with us. Jesus came to teach us His ways. Jesus invites us to come to Him and learn of Him. But Jesus will not force His mentorship on anyone. We must let Jesus mentor us. It is either the greatest picture ever painted or the saddest picture ever painted, the answer depends on us.

Jesus said, “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me” (Revelation 3:20). Jesus is knocking on the door of our hearts, He desires to be our mentor. Let us make the most important decision of life and let Jesus mentor us.



GIVING & ESTATE PLANNING A LEGACY OF FAITH THROUGH WBS

BY GEORGE A. BARLOW, JR. | CHIEF ADVANCEMENT OFFICER



Samuel from India was baptized into Christ after studying the Master Series courses on the WBS Lite App.



Williams asked his Study Helper in the WBS App, "How can I avoid sin?" After reading several verses sent by his Study Helper, Williams was baptized into Christ.



In a world where we often focus on the here and now, it can be easy to overlook the importance of planning for the future. But for Christians, the concept of stewardship calls us to consider not just our immediate impact, but also the legacy we leave behind. Giving and estate planning are powerful ways to honor God's blessings and ensure that our resources continue to further His kingdom. World Bible School offers a kingdom-building opportunity to combine these principles, enabling faithful stewards to leave a lasting imprint on the mission of sharing and spreading the Good News.



Left: Faithful Christians who have shared their faith with the next generation; their WBS Student in Zambia is now a WBS recruiter and evangelist. This couple wants to make an investment in the future with WBS through Estate Planning.

Giving: Investing in Eternal Impact

Partnering with WBS is an investment in eternity. Through our mission to share the Gospel with millions across the globe, WBS provides tools and resources that equip individuals and churches to learn about Jesus and grow in their faith. Your contributions will provide:

- Printed and Digital Bible Studies: Enabling Students to study the Bible in their own time and language.
- Bible Distribution: Providing free Bibles to those seeking to know God's Word.

- Training and Resources: Equipping churches and individuals to share the Gospel effectively.

Estate Planning: Ensuring Your Legacy of Faith

Options for incorporating WBS into your estate planning include:

- Naming WBS as a beneficiary in your will or trust.
- Designating WBS as a beneficiary of a retirement account, life insurance policy or investment account.
- Establishing a charitable remainder trust or donor-advised fund.
- Creating a memory or tribute fund in honor of someone you love.

Giving and Estate Planning: A Perfect Match

Giving and estate planning combined enables you, should you choose, to live a life of purpose that is driven toward advancing the kingdom. While giving allows you to witness the fruits of your generosity in the present, estate planning ensures your commitment to God's work continues. By partnering with WBS, you align your financial legacy with your spiritual values, contributing to a mission that transforms lives and glorifies God.

What Are Your Next Steps:

If you are ready to explore how you can support World Bible School through giving and/or estate planning, we are here to help. Our team can provide guidance and resources to ensure your generosity reflects your faith and priorities. Together, we can create a legacy that shares the Gospel and changes lives far into the future and into eternity.

Contact me today to learn more about giving and/or estate planning options with World Bible School.

Email me at gb@worldbibleschool.net or call me directly at (949) 637-4131.

Let's make a difference together.

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THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE OF MENTORING

BY WILLIAM BUSH | CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER

Despite the word “mentor” never appearing in the Bible, it does not take long to find the spiritual discipline of mentorship being weaved throughout the text. When I think of mentorship, I think of Moses and Joshua; Eli and Samuel; Elijah and Elisha; David and Solomon; Jesus and His apostles; Paul and Timothy; and Barnabas and John Mark.

I think of passages like **Deuteronomy 6:4-5, 7**, “*Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might ... You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*”; **Proverbs 27:17**, “*As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another*”; **Philippians 4:9**, “*Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you*”; and **Titus 2:3-8**, “*Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love*

their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, and sound speech that cannot be condemned”.

When I reflect on spiritual mentorship, I think of God’s establishment of the home, where parents are called to train their children in the Lord. I think of God’s establishment of elders (shepherds) who care for their congregations, teaching them and exemplifying the Word of God which protects them from being influenced by false doctrine. I think of God’s design of the body of Christ, which brings multiple generations, talents and backgrounds together to work and serve alongside one another in faithfulness and love to Christ.

Do you have any spiritual mentors? Have there been people in your life you feel have made an eternal impact on you? What did they say ... what did they do? Are there any moments in your life which you credit them for helping you remain faithful to Jesus? I believe, all of us who are still faithful Christians today not only have a Biblical “cloud of witnesses” (Hebrews 11, 12:1-2), but a personal “cloud of witnesses” who have walked alongside us in the faith, mentoring, guiding and encouraging us to remain faithful to Christ.

Now the real question is - what are **YOU intentionally doing** to be a spiritual mentor to others? In a time where our brotherhood continues to see souls leaving the church, what are YOU doing to stand alongside someone and be a spiritual mentor to help them keep the faith? Do YOU know someone YOU can be a mentor to? How might YOU reach out and encourage them?

As World Bible School equips Christians to share Jesus, we also provide tools and resources for Christians to mentor their fellow brothers and sisters in Christ for

faith and good works. Check out tools like Mathetis, the WBS Master Series, the Reaching Series and our Advanced Bible courses which you can use to strengthen one another’s knowledge and faith. You can invite them to an in-person study using our printed curriculum, to an online study through the WBS App or worldbibleschool.org or you can invite them to a Mathetis Bible study online which includes high-quality videos and discussion questions.

If you are already a WBS Postal, Online or Ocean Bridge Coordinator, who can you mentor to join you in sharing the Gospel in your local community or mission points? Did you know you can **call WBS** and we can craft training sessions and workshops to help you inspire more people from your congregation to get involved in teaching the Gospel through WBS?

Maybe you are reading this and you do not know of anyone you can mentor spiritually. WBS has thousands of people who right now are seeking a Christian mentor to study and grow alongside them. You can:

- 1) Mentor as an **Online Study Helper** to teach souls seeking to start an online Bible correspondence course. Apply at worldbibleschool.net/teach.
- 2) Mentor as a **Follow-up Partner**, which allows you to respond to souls local to you who are seeking to become a Christian or find a church home after studying the WBS Master Series. Apply at worldbibleschool.net/follow-up.
- 3) Mentor as a **Mathetis Mentor** (yes “Mentor” is in the name), which allows you to join Mathetis groups who are requesting a Christian to join and assist their study. Apply at mathetis.org/teach.
- 4) Mentor as a **Postal or Ocean Bridge Coordinator** by setting up a WBS Program at your congregation, grading lessons and studying with Students who using our printed curriculum. Call us at [512-345-8190](tel:512-345-8190) to learn more.

Who are you going to mentor in the faith?

OCEAN BRIDGE MENTORING

BY TIM YAEGER | CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER



Concord Road church of Christ youth group in Nashville, Tennessee being mentored to teach Ocean Bridge Students. Now, veteran youth group members are mentoring their younger peers how to grade lessons and share feedback with their Students.



In this evolving process, key national Ocean Bridge technicians play a crucial mentoring role. They mentor volunteers and office workers, emphasizing attention to detail and efficient workflows. They also prepare future servants, ensuring that the work of WBS endures for generations to come. Office workers, in turn, mentor recruiters, evangelists and preachers, helping them maximize the potential of WBS tools to spread the Gospel further in their evangelism and church growth ministries.

Ocean Bridge continues WBS history of participating churches having the ability to tailor their programs to maximize their efforts. Some congregations, like

the Mayfair church of Christ, have run successful programs for years. Others, such as the Concord Road church of Christ, have found Ocean Bridge to be the best way for their program to grow, allowing them to continue their mission despite postal challenges. These congregations are helping pave the way for effective evangelism as we learn from their experiences. As your WBS program grows, Ocean Bridge may be helpful to your specific needs. Let us know if we can help you evaluate its potential for your WBS program. **Call us at 512-345-8190 or email help@worldbibleschool.net.**

WBS wants to improve our role in mentoring and supporting churches who want to make

use of any of our WBS tools. From printing and grading to scanning and troubleshooting, we are here to ensure congregations have the resources and encouragement they need. Unlike with postal correspondence, with Ocean Bridge, we can now track progress, identify problems and grow in our ability to respond to challenges.

So, who are you mentoring in your congregation? Are you preparing to pass the mantle of the Great Commission to the next generation? Each of us is called to share Jesus and to inspire others to do the same. Together, through mentorship and dedication, we can ever grow in reaching lost souls for Christ.

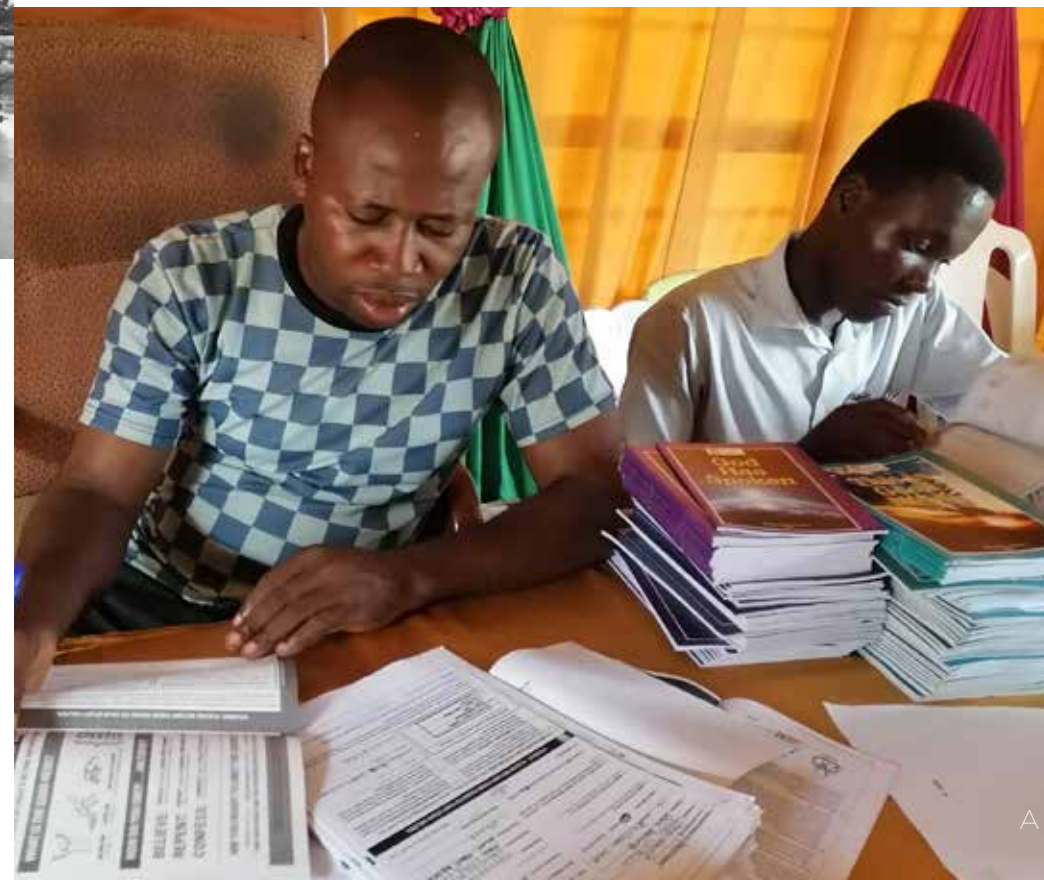
Our Ocean Bridge Students are being mentored by their Study Helpers and Follow-up Partners.

Even our WBS Recruiters, workers and volunteers are called to mentor one another as fellow Christians and servants within the Kingdom of God.



Mentoring has always been at the heart of World Bible School. Study Helpers mentor Students, guiding them in learning about Jesus and His message. Coordinators mentor Study Helpers within their congregations, encouraging them to stay diligent in responding to Students—even when the Gospel isn't always met with an eager response. Looking ahead, Coordinators also carry the responsibility of mentoring the next generation of leaders who will continue this vital work.

Ocean Bridge is transforming how WBS operates in countries where postal systems have become unreliable. Ocean Bridge relies heavily on the collaborative efforts of Service Centers and congregations to ensure everything runs seamlessly.



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WHAT'S IN ACTION!?



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