Experience Israel Now Newsletter/July 2024



Rock Springs Pastor Benny Tate uses one of our drone video clips in his 2024 Father's Day message in Milner, Ga.

## A God-sized dream

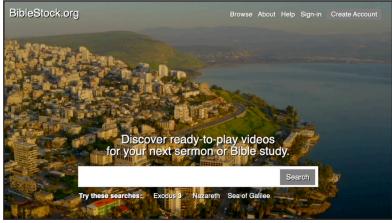
We want to share our video resources with Bible teachers everywhere

After a decade of listening to pastors and other Bible teachers, Experience Israel Now is tackling its biggest dream ever.

We're building a website/app that will allow pastors, small-group leaders and Bible teachers around the world to use our photographs, video clips and drone video footage in their own ministries.

"BibleStock.org" will allow anyone to type in a Scripture passage and immediately discover several ready-to-show video clips, photos and illustrations that will help them bring visual content into their teaching.

If the concept catches on, thousands of Bible teachers could soon be using our unique video resources. Did you know that we have more drone



We're building a new website/app! See how it works on Page 2.

video footage of biblical sites than any other organization?

It will take several months to build the site and have it ready for use. It will also require a great deal of marketing once we're ready to launch.

## Discover. Download. Play. Easy.

Nearly without exception, pastors love the idea of using visual images from the lands of the Bible in their own teaching ministries.

Unfortunately, almost none of them are using such resources!

Last winter, a focus group of pastors helped us clearly define the challenge of how we might equip more Bible teachers with photos and video clips from the lands of the Bible.

The results of our study tell us that pastors are too busy to tackle the time-consuming task of learning how to incorporate video into their sermons. They don't know how to make video clips. They don't know where to find such resources. And just as important, they don't know what to say about biblical locations while a video of that site is playing.

Our goal is to eliminate those challenges with a new website/app we're calling "BibleStock.org."

Visitors to the site will type in a passage of Scripture or a biblical location. Video clips, photos, and illustrations related to the search will immediately appear. "Talking points" will be available, too.

From there? It's a matter of downloading the video and dropping it into any presentation software common to all computers.

Almost all Bible teachers have projectors, screens, television monitors, laptop computers and smart phones at their disposal. Now they'll have images from the land of the Bible to use as God leads!



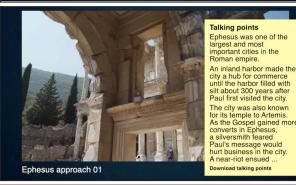
1.
Type
in any
passage
or Bible
location.



2.
Discover several resources related to your search.



3.
Watch and download one or more of the videos.



4.
Read
about
the video
you've
chosen.



5.
Make
the video
part of
your own
ministry.

## Here's how you can help

A few weeks ago, I was teaching a class on Bible geography to seminary students at Ambassador International University in Zambia.

Technology has taken its time to reach AIU. When I was there in 2019, the school only had power 12 hours each day. This year? We had electricity around the clock!

Despite the limitations, we challenged these students to learn how to use Google Earth Pro and to incorporate

video clips from biblical locations in a presentation to their classmates. They would *show* one another how geography helps us understand the Bible.

For several years, this is something I've longed to see more pastors and small-group leaders do in America, where we have an abundance of technology.

The students at AIU immediately caught on to the new teaching technique. Though some of them needed more help than others, I came away with a major realization.

It's time to share our visual resources with the world. If it works in Zambia, it'll work anywhere!

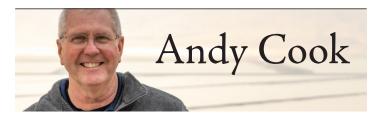
We're building a website/app that will, I pray, change the way thousands of preachers and small-group leaders teach the Bible. No matter where you live, *seeing* the Bible helps us understand the Bible.

Now we need your help.

The start-up cost of this project is \$100,000. That includes costs for building the website



A student at AIU makes a presentation using EIN video resources.



(\$40,000) and marketing the concept (\$40,000). We'll also need to purchase some new video and contract for help in getting all that video tagged and uploaded to the new site (\$20,000). All of that needs to be done by the end of this year.

Subscribers to BibleStock.org will provide income for annual costs in the future. But right now, we've got several months of hard work in front of us before we're ready to launch.

And we need an extra \$100,000. It's a Godsized dream and it's requiring the biggest stretch of faith for our ministry since we began full-time work in 2015.

Want to help us change the world? By all means, start by praying for us! And if you can, please help us reach our goal of raising an extra \$100,000 by the end of 2024. Visit experienceisraelnow.com/donate to give on line or see other ways to give.

## EIN group trips to Israel on hold indefinitely

The war between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip continues to have a devastating impact on tourism in Israel.

After a two-year shutdown because of the COVID epidemic, Israel has effectively been closed again to tourists for the past nine months.

Increasing attacks from Hezbollah terrorists in southern Lebanon now have many in Israel preparing for a second war in the north. All sites in the Upper Galilee or the Golan Heights are closed to visitors, and thousands of Israelis are still displaced in hotels.

Experience Israel Now group trips to Israel are on hold indefinitely, probably through 2025. Please pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

In the meantime, **our first-ever study tour of Turkey** has just three seats left. Want to walk through some of the greatest stories in the New Testament?

Join us September 16-27.

We have a single female traveler waiting on a roommate for the Turkey tour. Contact us immediately if you're interested in traveling with us!

A new book is scheduled for release this fall! Just in time for Christmas, "The King of Bethlehem" will explore the impact Herod the Great had on the Christmas story. It will also follow Mary and Joseph on their journey to Bethlehem.

Want to schedule a "King of Bethlehem" presentation in your church this fall? Do so quickly. Our Christmas schedule fills quickly every year!

Speaking of presentations, our next two church conferences will be at **First Christian Church in Perry** August 4-7 and at **Turner's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church** near Butler, August 11-14.

We're scheduling conferences for the winter now. With Israel off limits for most visitors, an Experience Israel Now conference is the best way to take your church to the land of the Bible.

Learn more at experienceisraelnow.com/presentations.



Our 2023 group pauses for a photo on the Mount of Olives, overlooking Jerusalem's Old City.



