

The Wi-Fi opportunity



Do you remember what life was like before the Internet? Before we could just google something? Many of us grew up with encyclopedias and books as a source of information, gaining knowledge through reading or teaching. What if right now you lived in a place with no library, no internet, and no access to the web?

Today, in some parts of the world people don't have easy access to information, with no internet, no libraries, and limited education. This means that information and learning are highly valued and sought after. Also, in many countries people can use cell phones to call or text affordably, but internet and data is very expensive. However, many people have smart phones but use cell data very sparingly, looking for Wi-Fi access wherever they can. This presents an amazing opportunity to help people with technology...

While technology can bring many improvements to life, it can also bring in many negative and damaging things. The internet has a great wealth of information for the learner, if directed, but also brings some pretty horrible and damaging content as well. Technology can also be used for good; Tech Serve was started to use technology for the Kingdom of God, and help people come to know the person of Jesus Christ.

The Story unfolds: In years past, TSI Board member Tom Slatten had a vision to provide laptops for poor schools, loaded with children's educational videos with everything from basic math, to science, and English, as well as Biblical children's videos. Together with large flat screen TV's, these systems are being used to bring information and education to many



classrooms. Tech Serve has and continues to provide many of these units to many classrooms and we have seen great success for children learning about Jesus.

God's Provision:

Tech Serve has been blessed to have Kent McNabb volunteering and now



Kent McNabb

on staff, using his computer expertise to help further the Kingdom of God. Kent has a very extensive background in computer hardware and programming skills, and has worked countless hours refurbishing laptops, writing programs, and developing software for these projects.

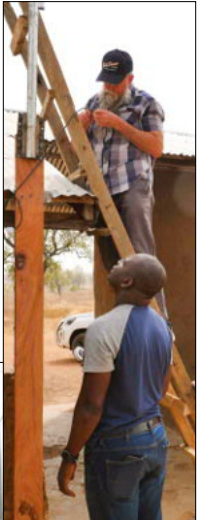
While installing the laptops in schools, we saw the need to make all of this content available to everyone in the area, and came up with the idea of using a limited free Wi-Fi signal connecting to smart phones that people already own. To develop from concept to a usable prototype has taken awhile, with many obstacles to overcome. Today we have a simple system that provides a limited Wi-Fi to watch and learn good things! This limited Wi-Fi does not provide the Internet, it only provides access to the thousands of videos.



The system is simple, and runs optimized on a laptop Linux server. Users connect to the free Wi-Fi, and from the launch of a browser the users are presented with a simple menu where they can select categories to scroll videos. In addition to all of the educational videos there are Biblical movies like the Jesus Film. Smart phones are very common in Africa, and for the local people to be able to learn at their own pace with their own device, is a huge blessing. This system can bring good content to the village, with education and the message of Jesus! Once all of this was designed and built, Kent loaded multiple used laptops with the server program, so that this could be installed with local pastors in Africa. Weston and Kent tested the system with different antennas and sizes to provide the best reception to the residents in the communities and villages where the Wi-Fi would be broadcast.

When Weston arrived in Africa, there was much excitement for the installation. Resources for mounting the antennas were limited, requiring improvisations. Once the system was up and running it broadcasts a free Wi-Fi signal around the neighborhood. The entire system is efficient and can run off of a simple car battery and a solar panel. The range of the Wi-Fi signal varies on many factors, but in a recent field test we were able to watch videos at close to a half mile away. Children in Africa love to see something fun and interesting on a cell phone. This new teaching tool has come to their village, and it brings education, entertainment, and most importantly, the knowledge of God!

Pastor EB and local help!



Pastor CL & Weston

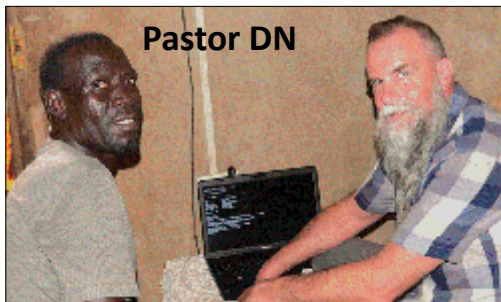




Children watching Bible Stories on a smart phone!



Weston & Pastor EL



Pastor DN

Today, in a remote village in Africa, you can connect to the Free Wi-Fi signal, and end up at a simple webpage with icons. These icons give access to specific categories that open up to more categories and to more videos. Here you will find thousands of videos instructing everything from kindergarten math, to basic geometry, to lessons on physics and basic chemistry. There are thousands of Bible story videos for children, movies like the Jesus Film, and even an icon for the local church, where you will find videos and audio messages from the Pastor who is hosting the Wi-Fi system.



Pastor DN's village



What a super opportunity to share the good news! If you are interested in sponsoring a system for a village, the direct cost of the laptop, radio, and antenna, is about \$500 to set up a system. We can then load up the programming and find a suitable location. **Each system installed opens a door for people to learn about Jesus!**



We would like to see this system used around the world on a large scale. Since we are a small outfit with limited reach, please share this information! If you know someone, or are involved with people or an organization that could use this system, please reach out to us.



We are happy to share this information and the programming software for free, as well as help set up the technical systems. Feel free to contact the office here at Tech Serve. We continue to provide laptops for schools as well, full of good content for teaching children.



From The Desk to the Dock with Wes



As we look at what is happening in the world today, we are drawn to many thoughts. Why Pray? Why Serve? Why Go? Why Give? Can I make a difference for the Kingdom of God? It is because of Our Hope, Jesus Christ, that we all have the answers to all of these questions. JESUS is at the heart of all that matters in our lives. As we push back against cultural conditioning and societal norms, we

lean into and focus back on our guide, THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. So as you wonder “Am I making a difference for the Kingdom of God?”, look at what is being accomplished through you, and your friends here at Tech Serve. None of us can succeed without Jesus, and we can’t do any of this without each of you. We are indebted to so many of you who pray for us, support us, and go with us, to be a help to so many. You make a difference and make serving a joy! We are privileged to serve together with you! **THANK YOU!**

Wes Syverson

TSI is grateful for the many opportunities to serve people and ministries. If you need help with logistics, fiber networks, electrical engineering, telephone and VOIP Systems, GIS systems, etc, please call. We would love to help! Please feel free to call or visit our website for more information.

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Thank You for supporting Tech Serve!

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