



April 2015

A screenshot of the website thisisyoubible.com. At the top, there is a search bar and a language dropdown set to "English". Below that is the site's logo, "THIS IS YOUR BIBLE.COM", and the tagline "Learn about your Bible with us". A navigation menu includes links for HOME, LIBRARY, Q&amp;A, VIDEOS, REGISTER, ABOUT, CONTACT, and a Login button. The main content area features a "Free Online Bible Webinar" section with a video thumbnail of a classroom and a list of bullet points: "Watch Online - 16 Lessons in a Classroom setting", "Your own online tutor helps personalize your learning", "Learn to master Bible reading skills", and "Discover what the Bible really says." Below this is a "Learn More!" button. At the bottom, there is a "Ask a question about the Bible:" form and a "Continue Reading" link next to an article titled "Perfection" which discusses the concept of perfection and references Hebrews 5:8-9.

The [thisisyoubible.com](http://thisisyoubible.com) project continues to be a vibrant, collaborative preaching tool that unites brothers and sisters with people interested in God's word across the globe. In case you are not familiar with it, [thisisyoubible.com](http://thisisyoubible.com) provides free online bible courses designed to teach contacts the basics about God's word and our hope.

A major differentiator of our site from others is that we have real people (approx. 600 tutors) assigned to students, engaged in ongoing relationships with them, in order to help them understand the Bible. You too can be a tutor - just go to [thisisyoubible.com](http://thisisyoubible.com), scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the 'tutor registration' link. Or, you can directly email the site administrator, Bro. Mike LeDuke, at [mduke@gto.net](mailto:mduke@gto.net). It's a great way to get involved in preaching efforts without having to actually travel to distant places.

## Recent Baptisms



This past year 4 baptisms have directly resulted from contact with the website. One, a woman (now sister) in Pennsylvania who was baptized in May, wrote

*I began to look online for other churches. I lived in (x) and there were mainly Catholic and Methodist churches around. I knew I would have to travel to find a church that met my needs. That is when I found TIYB. I began taking the courses on-line and reading the Q&A. I finally decided to make a trip to the PGH (Pittsburgh) meeting. I was welcomed with open arms...*

Another new sister is now married to a brother from the Solomon Islands. She met him when he was studying engineering at University. She undertook the online course on TIYB which was a very important part of her learning the Truth.

These examples show the power of using [thisisyourbible.com](http://thisisyourbible.com) in conjunction with brothers and sisters in local ecclesias. It's also very rewarding to hear the gratitude expressed by those who choose to embrace the gospel.

Two other baptisms came from very different parts of the world - one from Papua New Guinea and one from the UK. This reflects the international nature of the site - it reaches a worldwide audience and involves brothers and sisters from all parts of the world.



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## Continued Progress

We continue to work on improving [thisisyourbible.com](http://thisisyourbible.com). This year we moved to a more reliable and scalable web server, and cut monthly server costs by at least 80%. We also improved our email communication system. We've fine-tuned our Google Ad-words, cutting expenses there while retaining high visitor counts. We've simplified and clarified the login process for users and continued publishing monthly blog articles on first principles, written by Bro. Jason Hensley. We are now in a technical position to tackle some of the more ambitious and medium-term goals.

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## Future Goals

We have many ideas for ways to improve [thisisyourbible.com](http://thisisyourbible.com). These include:

- Optimizing the site for mobile users. Over half of our visitors now come to us from phones or tablets.
- Improving student and tutor communications through more customized communications options and better feedback to tutors.
- Revising the look and feel of the site once more (keeping a site 'modern-looking' is an ongoing challenge).
- Improving the quality (content and features) of our online courses



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## Volunteers Needed

As always, we need volunteers to continue the success of [thisisyourbible.com](http://thisisyourbible.com). If you have skills in any of these areas, please contact the undersigned or Bro. Mike LeDuke at [mduke@gto.net](mailto:mduke@gto.net)

- Tutors (almost anyone with internet access is qualified to do this!)
- Content creation - courses, blog posts, articles, Q &A
- Front-end web development (HTML, CSS, JavaScript, etc.)
- Front-end web design (graphics, page layout, optimization for mobile, etc.)
- Back-end web development (primarily PHP and MySQL)



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