The BibleBox website - http://biblebox.org/

Like The BibleBox on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/TheBibleBox

The BibleBox on Twitter - https://twitter.com/thebiblebox

Slideshare Presentation - https://www.slideshare.net/cdsmythe/the-biblebox-introduction-share-the-cross-with-wifi

What is the BibleBox?

The BibleBox is a pocket-sized battery powered wifi router which creates a wifi network which devices can connect to to access digital resources. Many people carry with them a wifi enabled device – laptop, phone or tablet. They can access internet and data wherever they are. The BibleBox is a cheap, simple wireless device to share a collection of digital wifi Bible resources to users of wifi enabled phones, tablets and laptops. Whether in a Cairns cafe, a church in Jakarta, an apartment building in Nairobi, a jungle village in Papua New Guinea or an office block in New York.

In the developed world, Christians with internet access can easily download free digital wifi Bibles, subscribe to sermons and podcasts on their mobile phones, install apps for multiple Bible versions and scripture memory tools, install apps which can be used for outreach and discipleship. Many of us live in a space where access to these tools – many of which are free – is taken for granted.

Yet in the developing world there is a gap. There are people with wifi enabled devices and opportunity to disciple and mentor other Christians, but they do not have access to the internet or to Biblical material and training resources.

The BibleBox seeks to remove that gap and provide a simple way to share Bible resources to users of wifi mobile devices.

What does the BibleBox do?

The BibleBox is a device which enables the sharing of digital wifi Bible and discipleship resources on its own wifi network. The BibleBox combines:

- a small wifi access point TPLink MR3040 (other routers running Openwrt are now being used by others including the TPLink MR3020, the TP Link WR842nd)
- a USB drive containing digital Bible resources for sharing
- software which provides a webpage interface to the resources and a user chat feature

Once the BibleBox is turned on it creates a wifi network. As devices connect to this network they are able to access digital resources on the USB device plugged into the BibleBox. The user simply opens a browser, navigates to http://BibleBox.org and the website which opens is the one located on the BibleBox USB stick. The website then makes it easy for someone accessing files to browse and download them to their device (laptop, phone, tablet).

How is the BibleBox being used?

A church pastor wants his congregation to have access to a set of digital resources on a Sunday morning, but not access to the internet so that email and Facebook become distractions. He sets up a BibleBox in the church and provides access to a wifi Bible and other digital resources for any wifi users. Those on the wifi begin discussing anonymously points the pastor is making during his sermon using the BibleBox web chat feature.

Pilots with Mission Aviation Fellowship live and work amongst some of the worlds most isolated people groups. These pilots fly in and out of isolated communities where people have lived for centuries without access to schools, universities, Bible colleges, training pastors. An MAF pilot equipped with a BibleBox is able to switch it on when in a remote village and provide a local leader or church pastor who has a wifi enabled device, learning material and discipleship resources from the BibleBox.

Church pastors in Mexico each have a BibleBox which is regularly updated by travelling Bible translators from SIL. They collect and produce Bible training material which is then made available in many communities.

A businessman waiting for yet another flight connects to the airport wifi to check and send his email. While he is waiting for his flight he switches on his BibleBox and makes 100's of audio sermons available to anyone who connects to his free, secure and private BibleBox wifi.

A mission's office in Peru has the BibleBox setup on a stationary TP Link WR842nd router in their office sharing resources with people nearby.

A Christian evangelist in North Korea shares Bible resources during their time in local gathering areas to people with wifi phones.

A Taxi driver in Papua New Guinea makes resources available to passengers as they journey with him.

Missionary families living in remote communities have a BibleBox sitting on a window sill of their house or office making Bibles and learning resources available simply by having it

turned on. Nothing else is required. Once the device is on anyone with a wifi enabled device simply connects to the BibleBox and download the shared files.

A Christian store owner uses a BibleBox in his store to make available Christian digital resources to his customers.

A Christian in a country with limited or restricted access to Bible teaching sits in a park with her BibleBox wifi active. She can privately and securely make wifi Bible sermons on video available to those connected to the BibleBox wifi.

An office worker on his daily commute to work on public transport uses a BibleBox on the train to make evangelistic resources available over the BibleBox wifi link to anyone who connects to it. In private.

A Christian in an apartment complex in Bangladesh uses his BibleBox to share Christian resources anonymously with others in his complex. They share resources and can even chat online using the BibleBox software out of sight to answer any questions or discuss issues.

A Christian field worker travels from the city to more remote areas of her region to meet with local church members and leaders. She takes with her a fully charged BibleBox to the various meetings where resources are made available and downloaded to Android smartphones and tablets. The church leaders and members then share them through their device with others in their local villages, making Bible teaching more available and frequent.

Comments from BibleBox users:

"Yesterday while in downtown Oaxaca City visiting and distributing CDs and pre-loaded micro-SD among the Triqui craft vendors I also left my BibleBox unit that has materials in over 70 languages turning on in my backpack. It looked like about 20 people connected."

"I shared the BibleBox concept with my pastor here in the States this morning. We do a lot of outreach events at festivals in our community and setting up a "free" wifi hot spot could enhance those efforts. I'm also thinking about asking some local restaurant owners about sponsoring their own BibleBoxes."

"The Lord opened up a door for me to go to Turkey in 2005 and 2006 but since then I haven't been back. Being ethnically Jewish, raised in a Christian home, and a strong personal relationship with the Lord my heart has been in the Middle East for quite some time. I have come to understand the Middle East in ways that I believe few westerners can. Getting something like the BibleBox translated into Turkish, and Lord willing Hebrew, Arabic, and Persian will hopefully be a way to contribute to the effort of sharing Christ in ways that I might not be able to do so otherwise."

"Once Missionary Recordists from Global Recordings Network have completed audio recordings of Bible stories/messages for a Bible-less people group they then need to distribute them. Fortunately many of the Bible-less people groups have cell phones and through the Bible Box they are hearing for the first time the Good News in their heart language!!!"