

Mobile Ministry Magazine

Using technology and the scripture to equip men and women to minister the Gospel to the nations

Issue 2, Spring 2005

Chill Out with New Laptops

This January saw the announcement of over 100 new laptops which will use Intel's Centrino chipset. Centrino is Intel's system of processor, memory, and wireless technologies that enable a person to get online as simply as possible. To date, the US market has seen Dell, Gateway, HP, Toshiba, Acer, and others release laptops with the new chipset. The best thing about these new releases is that compared to similar releases at this time last year, the laptops are lower priced and better in performing. If you are in the market for a new laptop, this is a great time to buy as there are excellent deals for both previous and new models.



Picture of HP nc8230
from NotebookReview.com

What to look for on these new laptops: look for models that have at least 512MB of RAM (or memory) and at least a 40GB hard drive. Other items that some laptops have that may be of interest are wide screen displays (great if you watch movies with your laptop), a DVD recordable drive (the price of recordable DVDs are dropping to their lowest levels), and built in readers for smaller memory cards (such as compact flash/CF and secure digital/SD memory cards). These extra features used to cost more to get included on a laptop, but some manufacturers have resorted to including them to push the multimedia center end of owning a laptop.

So this article took a bit longer to be released than it was supposed to. Please pardon the timing on that end. To keep that from happening in the future, Mobile Ministry Magazine is looking for capable writers who would be willing to submit an article or two for the next issue. If you are interested, send your request and an article sample to mobileministry@antoinerjwright.com



Picture of palmOne Life
Drive Mobile Manager
from palmOne.com

In the cold and sometimes slippery winter season, Mobile Ministry Magazine (MMM) came along to encourage you to stay in a place that is warm, grab a cup of cocoa, and take a read at what we will bring you this month. From wireless handhelds, to how to deploy handhelds in an office setting, MMM sets to have you equipped for the roar of the spring to come. Now that the seasons have changed are done, Mobile Ministry Magazine give you something to bloom with, and carry you into a prosperous summer.

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Visit us on the web at <http://mobileministrymagazine.blogspot.com>

For questions or comments concerning items in this issue, or to request a back issue, please send a detailed email to mobileministry@antoinerjwright.com

The Coming of the Future: Wireless

At the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) this past January, the big push by nearly every computer manufacturer was the idea of being wireless. How this impacts the ministry field can be an extreme boon in urban areas where you need to have your teams connected, or in rural areas where you need to keep contact with a base station either via email or mobile phone. The wave of the future has many of us looking like Captain Kirk from Star Trek with a communicator device that can speak and show us voice and email. One of the goals of Mobile Ministry Magazine is to help you to understand what this means for you and your ministry pursuits.

Some people who read MMM may be in the pastoral or teaching end where their primary concerns are being connected to important information. Whether that is just the church calendar, or a budget that the church treasurer needs to have reviewed, using a PDA Smartphone could be one aspect of wireless technology that one can use to make themselves more in control of the information that flows around them. Devices such as palmOne's Treo 600 and 650 and HP's iPaq h6300 have the ability to not only be a PDA in the sense of carrying your calendar, but they are also phones that can connect to the internet (with a data plan by your mobile phone provider) to download appropriate information that may be needed quickly.

Another aspect of being wireless that is commonly overlooked is in the office. Church offices are not always one room issues. In many cases, there are multiple offices that each has computers and they need to be networked so that information can be easily shared. In the past, one would have to call in a local consulting company, or hire a church member who would run cable and setup the hardware and software. Today, networking companies have made it easy for nearly anyone to create and maintain a secure wireless network. In terms of cost, it is nearly the same to setup. The cost savings come in maintenance costs over the life of the wireless connection. For those thinking that wireless connections are not secure, all networking software for small businesses come with software and other information to help you keep a secure and speedy connection within the church office.

What if you need more than a PDA for where you are, and having a smartphone is not an option due to the rugged nature of where you are ministering? Getting a mini-notebook is an excellent option. Mini-notebook is an excellent option. Mini-notebooks are as capable as their full-sized brethren but use much less power. IBM and Fujitsu are the best players here with designs that are both rugged and very manageable. And for those in areas with little to no electricity, adding a solar charger to your PDA or mini-notebook is as easy as a trip to the local Radio Shack and hooking it up to your device.

No matter what you choose, make sure that you research your options. Websites, such as NotebookReview.com are excellent resources and have plenty of information to help you make a sound decision.

A View from the Web

*Originally posted 5/3 @
the Mobile Ministry Magazine website
<http://mobileministrymagazine.blogspot.com>*

The more that I sit at a computer and really filter the news of the day through the scripture, the more that I realize that so many prophecies of the last days are right here. And maybe its me for not noticing, but more and more in the past weeks/months, there have been these stories that just stand out as one of those "hey you, the end is here and here is your warning" kind of messages.

Today's warning comes from The Independant (a UK paper - and no I am not British, I just read a lot) and talks about the mark of the beast being 616 instead of 666. Ok, I am no historian, numerologist, anthropologist, or biblical scholar, so my opinion might not hold as much weight in those respects. But, I was a public relations major, and do understand principles of shaping people via subtle media hints. For example, if a company wants to change their image, they do little things in order to gain confidence in a group of consumers, only later to deploy a larger marketing effort that is usually successful. I see the same thing happening with this story.

I've read many stories in the past months, one of the most striking being that of a police officer who had a RFID chip implanted within him. To me that is quite shocking, mark of the beast or not, wireless tagging equipment being placed inside of people just is a bad idea. It seems to me that the last days are very much upon us and yet, so subtle that no one seems to care.



The E2 is not the only new device introduced by palmOne this Spring. In May, palmOne introduced a new class of devices called the Life Drive. The first model in this lineup sports a 4GB (that four gigabyte) harddrive, WiFi and Bluetooth wireless technologies, and a nifty program called Camera Companion that allows for easy transferring of digital photos from a SD memory card to the Life Drive. The Life Drive is on sale now for \$500 from the palmOne Store (www.palmone.com).

Are You Prepared

*Originally posted 5/10 @
the Mobile Ministry Magazine website
<http://mobileministrymagazine.blogspot.com>*

Many of us take for granted the data that is on our phone, computer, or PDA. We walk and talk as if it will always be there, unless we haven't any power. But even then, we can just charge and go. We even think little about securing our data; leaving that to those who know-it-all and hope for the best, even if we think about it at all. But have you ever stopped to think about what would happen if some data disaster were to happen? How would you go about getting that information back online so that you can resume normal business? It's an important question, and one that anyone in the IT field (or parents with children in the homework age) come to figure out and assess quite quickly.

So when I was reading this article earlier, I thought about disaster recovery for the believer. Yes, we have friends that we can call, maybe even as far as calling a pastor or someone in authority that can really help you out work out that issue. But have you stopped to think about planning for disaster? Have you done those things in your relationship with Our Father that would make disasters a speed bump, rather than a wall and detour? In that eWeek article, there is a plan that talks about spreading data to other sources, streamlining backup tasks, and documenting everything. Applying that to our walk we see something similar in the Word: having fruitful relationships where our brothers and sisters keep us accountable; doing and equipping ourselves for the tasks that God would assign us; and observing to follow the examples of those who came before. Would then it be too far to say that we have just as much a responsibility in Christ to be equipped to help our brothers and sisters from disaster? I would think so, but that is only because my daily magazine says so.

The PalmOne Tungsten E2; A Quick Review

Released in April of 2005 as an update to the best selling Tungsten E, the palmOne Tungsten E2 represented a philosophy of "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." PalmOne tweaked the operating system and expanded the hardware to include a better (and brighter) screen, non-volatile memory (lose power but not your data), and Bluetooth for wireless connecting to other PDAs, printers, and phones for varied uses.

The E2's most prominent features are the inclusions of Bluetooth and the non-volatile memory. First about Bluetooth; first debuting on palmOne handhelds with the Tungsten T over two years ago, the E2 is the lowest Bluetooth model in palmOne's lineup. Bluetooth is a wireless radio technology that enables one to connect to other Bluetooth enabled devices, such as computers, printers, keyboards, and phones. For example, you can use the Bluetooth connection to your phone (which would also have Bluetooth) to use the E2 to collect email and surf the web. The E2 includes a very simple wizard that will get your Bluetooth settings and get you online in about 5 minutes.

The other feature of note is the non-volatile memory. In short, this memory is designed to be like a hard drive on your computer; cut the power, but do not lose your data. For some, you may go a while between charges and might not be able to charge your PDA. With other PDAs this would mean the loss of data and a lengthy process to getting that information back on your PDA. With the E2 (and the Tungsten T5 and Treo 650 models released last fall), you can lose the power to your device, but your information will remain intact. A drawback of this memory is slower performance with larger applications. But, I believe that people will put up with some lag if it meant that they would hold onto their data.

The Tungsten E2 by palmOne is available now for \$250 from palmOne. Make sure to look around the net at places like Princewatch.com and Ecost.com as they will sometimes show the E2 for a lower price.

Mobile Ministry Magazine wants to thank you for taking some time out of your day to download and read our second issue. It is our hope that the need for technologically-empowered and enabled Christians will use technology for the glory of God, and to bring balance to a world that would rather covet its resources than share. Over the upcoming months, stay tuned to the MMM's website as more news and information about how you can serve God with technology will be forthcoming. If you would like to contribute, there are always spaces for writers and product reviewers. If you want to contribute financially (via PayPal) or by donating tools for distribution, just drop us a line via email at mobileministry@antoinerjwright.com. I pray that this issue has blessed you, and that future issues will be a boon as well. God bless.

Antoine RJ Wright, Mobile Ministry Magazine founder

Building A Techie Youth in Wisdom

Nowadays, we are more likely to find teens connected with mobile phones and email, than we are engaged in social clubs. And for some that do get involved in social clubs, it is the technology within those clubs that helps to keep their interests going. Reading reports, such as this one from USAToday, makes me take the stance that beyond just getting technology in the hands of teens and other young folks; there needs to be rules and standards that govern their use. Not so much to limit their creativity, but to encourage the adoption and shared use of this resource.

When I was just a bit younger in the Lord, I felt that the Bible didnt do much to help me out during this transistional time. I felt that as a young adult that there were not a lot of tools there for a young adult engaged with technology. Its good to know that I was wrong. Proverbs is one book that will forever minister to those that are young at heart and desire to walk with wisdom and understanding in everything. So now, as someone who can have a voice amongst teens and young adults (not that I am really that much older), I have a responsibility to make sure that beyond the growing numbers of teens and youth online, that the growth of the effects of being online and connected are well understood as they too can grow fast.

I look at Proverbs such as Chapter 2 (in governing where to visit and what to visit online) and Chapter 16:17-25 (in keeping one's communication edifying in chatrooms and on IM) to see that the Connected Generation is quite well covered by the Word. And for us to be successful in making sure that being online doesnt lead to covetousness, idoltry, or worse. The key, of course, is making sure that we ourselves as those who have walked this are not being degraded to the same temptations. Its hard not to show off that new PDA, mobile phone or laptop. But in making sure that these devices dont give us the glory, we have to set aside the excitement just more than enough, so that our Lord might be able to use our tools for His glory. And the children that are trained with these tech tools now, will later prove to be fruit-bearing techies of the Father.

10 Reasons to Get Mobi-Systems Classic Office Suite by Kevin A

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Product 1 | \$7,318 | \$6,329 | \$2,110 | \$1,710 |
| Product 2 | \$2,814 | \$2,338 | \$9,199 | \$6,178 |
| Product 3 | \$2,875 | \$4,107 | \$5,528 | \$8,599 |
| Product 4 | \$4,365 | \$2,202 | \$5,807 | \$8,349 |
| Product 5 | \$9,451 | \$3,338 | \$3,472 | \$4,585 |
| Product 6 | \$7,810 | \$6,982 | \$7,018 | \$1,885 |
| Product 7 | \$9,976 | \$7,287 | \$5,006 | \$6,692 |
| Product 8 | \$2,536 | \$4,100 | \$6,328 | \$3,807 |
| Product 9 | \$3,104 | \$2,487 | \$5,349 | \$7,142 |

- * The first and only solution to support True Type Fonts right on the PDA or SmartPhone; with the free font converting utility that comes with the software you can install any Windows True Type font on your PDA.
- * Real support of Unicode - read and write in your own language whatever it is. View Cyrillic, Chinese (Traditional & Simplified), and Greek characters in word processing, spreadsheet and slideshow documents.
- * Seamless exchange of native office documents with other Palm devices, Pocket PCs, Symbian phones and desktop PCs. OfficeSuite handles DOC, TXT, RTF, XLS, XML, and CSV file formats.
- * File Explorer common for all office applications- browse , manage and share documents in a familiar Windows-like file explorer form.
- * MS Word like spelling features - on-the-fly underlining of misspelled words and word prediction as you type; Free spelling dictionaries in 6 languages come with the program - English, German, French, Spanish, Italian and Dutch.
- * Wirelessly store and access remote documents from the Palm device with the FTP client program integrated in OfficeSuite file explorer.
- * Sophisticated document formatting - embedded tables and images, paragraph and page formatting, hyperlinks, various styles of bullets and numbering.
- * 100% preservation of the original document formatting when opening external native formats.
- * The Windows desktop companion program allows you to synchronize office documents and ensures that your sensitive documents are up-to-date on both your desktop PC and Palm handheld.
- * Specially optimized for best performance on the latest Palm devices - LifeDrive, Tungsten series, Treo 650, Zire series, Tapwave Zodiac 2, and more.