



Ministry Updates

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Dear Friends and Ministry Partners,

Before Verlin left Bondoukou for Abidjan this week, he visited Carl, an Ivorian nurse leading a fledgling CHE effort in a village. Here's the short version.

Transport took more than three and a half hours to get there (*just 45 miles, but 38 passengers on a vehicle planned with seats for 22!*) The nurse was off to a great start with a CHE program after training in 2013, but he hit some challenges in learning to involve the community. Despite the missteps, the church has grown, advancing in obedience to King Jesus. He shared that he feels led by God to be content where he has been placed. Though offered opportunity to live in Canada, he stays. Many friends have asked why. For many Ivorians, including him, relocating to Canada or the U.S. sounds like heaven on earth. Instead, the Lord has developed in his heart a desire to stay and grow obedience here (Cote d'Ivoire & West Africa) rather than enjoy the fruits of others' obedience in the past and present there.



The sheep and goats pictured are a microenterprise idea that Carl copied as God spoke to him following the TOT1 in May 2013. He raises them because there's less investment required to make a profit than with chicken. The animals are in pens rather than freely roaming (Nu.32) for both obedience sake and keeping the stock alive. To feed the growing herd, families that do not have funds for school supplies or books, are blessed by work with their hands. They gather grass and other food from the surrounding forest land, feed the animals, and get compensated. This develops skills, gets kids to school, and helps the village nurse at the same time. It's a classic win-win that happens when CHE principles are applied.

Of the more than 1,300 patients under his direct or surrogate care last month, over 50% came because of malaria. Another third visited because of respiratory disease. Our discussion focused partially on how to re-initiate the CHE program given those medical statistics. I reviewed the [Wholistic Worldview Analysis tool](#) that helps communities concretely bridge a common false divide between physical and spiritual needs. It helped him visualize a way to catalyze efforts again.

This possibility provides a means to correct the misstep in committee selection before Carl engages the community via a seed project or a school health screening. I also made him aware of fellow Ivorians nearby who want to help CHEvangelism or CHEngagement advance so that he can multiply workers through joint training sessions.

Praise and Prayer:

- ☞ Monday, October 12, is a crucial court date for issues regarding Cason and Suzanne's ability to begin the adoption process for their foster daughter. Pray for calm nerves, truthful testimony, and a result that is in the best interest of this precious girl.
- ☞ Verlin leaves Cote d'Ivoire on Tuesday, October 13. Because a credit card was lost stateside last week, he does not have the newest card which he would normally use in emergencies. Ask the Lord for hassle-free travels.
- ☞ Corbin, our sophomore at Union University, did not come home for Fall Break this week. Instead he opted to stay on campus to get more work done, and to take advantage of help from upper classmen in the engineering department.
- ☞ Verlin was slowed considerably by using public transport during this trip. Some programs were not visited simply because of resulting time constraints. For reasons of access to remote areas, safety, and health (*Debbie's asthma flares up when regularly traveling open-windowed public transport*), we think it wise to buy a truck or 4x4. Pray confidently that the Lord compel some donors to be generous with this one-time need. Any vehicle that suits these ministry travel needs will be expensive. Just as He did with the house, the Lord already knows the need. He will provide.



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Your partners in the Gospel,

Verlin and Debbie Anderson