

AWA Ministry Updates

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Verlin met with a representative of the Union of the Fight Against Poverty (in French, the ULCP) August 8, the celebration of Ivorian Independence. This cooperative investment club developed in 2005 to operate like a mutual fund of rural agricultural production that would bless its participants. The church's hope was to fund development projects and evangelistic outreach. The idea worked so well that someone absconded with more than \$24,000 during a sale of cashew production. That stolen amount grew from the initial \$20 share contributions that totaled about \$600 at the beginning. The loss about shut down the effort in 2010 and 2011. Thankfully, the group did not give up and say all was lost. Instead they pursued an investigation, identified some problems that allowed the theft, and now do a planned shut down after reimbursing shareholders their funds. Although some might be tempted to view this experience as a failure, it is very encouraging. The response to the event testifies to the perception of life changed as a by product of Community Health Evangelism (CHE) teaching that started the effort. Here is what we mean.

In a typical fatalistic African worldview, when such happens, the community tends to speak hopelessly of the bad that has happened without reflecting on how to overcome it. Today, the initial group is not discouraged. Instead, they consider that they have learned lessons from which they can now prepare to do better. As part of their process, they returned to us all of our personal initial investment with an 18% gain. More than the money returned, our delight is in their successful regrouping and effort to start afresh. As the Biblical proverb teaches in contrast to local belief, *the righteous fall many times and rise again, but the ungodly stumble in times of trouble* (see Proverbs 24:16). We praise God that Biblical thoughts begin to become the rule.



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This is radical change among people who for centuries have thought that how one dies and is buried is more important than how to live abundantly now and go into eternity with assurance. Praise the Lord for the power of putting His Word into action! What joy to know of good that triumphs over evil.

Prayer and Praise:

- We are thankful that all of Debbie's medical bills related to surgery in the States were fully covered by insurance! Now pray with us that most of the approximate \$1,700 that we paid personally for the hospital stay in Cote d'Ivoire will be reimbursed.
- The Lord enabled Verlin and Cason to find a solution to one of the three problems we have in these weekly updates being delivered to subscribers. It will require Debbie and helpers to contact several hundred people individually, but at least one of the problems has a known solution.
- Ask the Lord to bless Corbin as he begins his junior year at Union University on August 21.
- Pray for the reformulation of the ULCP, believers and pastors starting the use of DMM, and the restructuring of the university trainings following the changing of available trainers and funding.

Your partners in the gospel, *Verlin and Debbie Anderson*

Last written: Doers not Hearers, [Anderson WEEKLY 160730](#)

Last video: [DMM \(YouTube\)](#) - [Anderson WEEKLY 160611](#)

2016 1Q Report: [Cloud-of-Witnesses 160806.pdf](#)

2016 Budget: [CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2016](#)

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