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Moses and his staff. David and his sling. A boy and his small lunch. Dorcas and her needle. The Bible is replete with people who used what was "in their hand" (see Exodus 4:2) to serve the Lord. That is one reason why a key principle of Community Health Evangelism (CHE) is honored of the Lord to help people discover how to use local resources for the benefit of their families and communities. Often equipment donated from wealthy nations to needy areas is useless because people do not know how to use or repair it, nor are parts locally available. Other well-intentioned NGOs give surplus of food and goods which sometimes put local farmers and artisans out of business. Christ has put within each believer a heart of compassion that wants to give. It is our responsibility to also use our heads, reaching out in ways that lift people out of spiritual and physical poverty, rather than leaving them feeling inferior and dependent.



Bondoukou, with a population of about 70,000 souls, has a huge problem common in Cote d'Ivoire. There is no regular means of trash removal. Littering is the norm and serious diseases like typhoid are common. It's a nationwide problem. Over the years, Verlin has experimented with various individual ways to dispose of trash. This week he and Koffi have worked on a stove that uses local products. Not only can it burn trash, but it can double as a protected wood fire stove, or be reshaped for baking. The heat can generate enough energy to recharge electronic device batteries. The design can be adjusted to reburn air

twice, depending on how the flue is placed. Our hope is that once it's in use, the technology will spread to others. Trash disposal might even become a CHE project that builds neighborhood or village systems, providing another witness of Christ who empowers each of us to serve with what we have in hand.

## Prayer and Praise:

- Verlin heads to Abidjan soon to finalize preparations for the <u>CHE training at the university</u>. This year a new person is charged with handling enrollment and paperwork for the event. He is going a bit early to be available to help her. Continue to pray for the trainers as they prepare.
- The Lord is very gracious. He allowed Debbie to be at our mobile home in Cookeville when a water leak developed. Had no one been there, serious, long-term damage would have occurred. We are thankful that the repair is in process, and not nearly as costly since it was discovered quickly.
- We have a Dorcas in our lives who has given us gorgeous quilts over the years that were perfect to use in Africa. We brought her some material from Africa, and here is the lovely new quilt that now graces our home. Talents of all kinds matter in His kingdom! Thank you, Mary Jo, for blessing not just us, but other missionaries and local shelters and orphans around the world.



Your partners in the gospel, Verlín and Debbie Anderson

Last written: Blessing or Curse? <u>Anderson WEEKLY 160820</u>
Last video: <u>DMM (YouTube)</u> - <u>Anderson WEEKLY 160611</u>

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