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Recently we invited a friend to eat with us. Over the meal, he shared some of his story that led him to forsake the religion with which he grew up and embrace a new faith as a middle-aged adult. His beliefs have led him around the world to do good works in many countries, helping very poor people improve their lives. He abandoned his childhood faith because of perceived hypocrisy and corruption of leaders asking for money to perform their duties, among other things. This tale is of a man leaving the Roman Catholic faith as he saw it lived in Europe to accept the beliefs of Islam.

What eternal damage we inflict by embracing a church-going, hymn-singing, offering giving, mission-tripping lifestyle without the power of Christ transforming our lives! We want to always remember that others study us to see if we are honest, obedient, and devoted lovers and followers of Jesus.



On a much lighter note, as Debbie continued cleaning and organizing our work spaces, she found a tool (a gift from a beloved Thompson) that Verlin had been missing for weeks! Now he can map an initial project by taking and recording dimensions with the exact coordinates of the plot of land and its limits. This agricultural project will provide both local jobs and useful nutrition.

## **Prayer and Praise**

- Pray that our devotion to Christ will be found pure and sincere, inviting people to the perfect Savior and not repelling them. Pray for the genuine believers here in Cote d'Ivoire, especially leaders, to live in loving servanthood and not succumb to the temptation of abusing position for power or access to money.
- Thankfully the strike by government workers is over. As Verlin's father used to say, "Two wrongs don't make a right": the mutineering of soldiers for pay increases in an out-of-turn manner does not mean that other government workers striking would fix the nation's situation. In this case, some of those receiving government pay have to live with wrongs others may have done in order to show a better way. Pray with us that the settlement reached will be honored by both sides and that life can get back to normal. Children are back in school.
- A CHE training will be held Feb 8-11 in Abengourou, a town nearly three hours south of us. We will not be directly involved this time, but we pass along the request for prayer from our friends in CHE who will lead it.

Your partners in the gospel, Verlin and Debbie Anderson

Last: Strike On <u>Anderson WEEKLY 170128</u> or <u>PDF</u>
Last video: <u>DMM (YouTube)</u> - <u>Anderson WEEKLY 160611</u>

2016 2Q Report: <u>Farming 101(web)</u> - <u>161119.pdf</u> 2016 Budget: <u>CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2016</u> Support these ministries: <a href="www.che4a.org">www.che4a.org</a>
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