



# Ministry Updates

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Unlike Americans, when Ivorians say “microbes” in French, they are not usually thinking of microorganisms that cause disease. In this country, microbes refer to gangs of young men on foot (ages 8 to 20, or so) who terrorize pedestrians with knives, machetes, and scissors that they are not afraid to use. Abidjan has dealt with this growing crime problem since about 2014, but it was just this week that we were told how it affects Bondoukou. Our local thugs love to prey on solitary people by stealing cash and electronics, especially as individuals get in and out of taxis or walk alone. This week, the teenage son of one of our ministry partners was held up. A young man approached him at dark to ask for directions, claiming that he was new in town and needed help to get somewhere. As the teen directed the stranger to the location, the rest of the gang with knives approached and stole his cell phone. Ivorians are so frustrated to see this kind of crime rising. They know that much of the problem is linked to a generation who do not have occupations or family supervision.



The regular kind of microbe got hold of Verlin’s respiratory system this week and has given him a miserable cough. Of course, three full days of working in the field on CHE agricultural projects probably contributed to weakening his immune system to some lifelong allergies. It was worth it, though, as they have almost finished delineating what land portions will be attributed to the varied projects. This will let our partners in the Gospel here advance the work as we leave home for slightly over a month. The team is also pleased that regular spiritual conversations are happening as locals come to observe the preparation of the fields, or work themselves. The realization that God cares about crops and has given principles in His Word to accurately address topics like farming and work ethics is an eye-opening and new concept to many.

## Prayer and Praise

- 🕊 Pray that Verlin overcomes this respiratory illness quickly, especially since he will fly July 10 to spend several days in Benin at the West African French CHE Consultation. After that, we will attend the FWB National Association in Louisville together.
- 🕊 The Lord answered prayer concerning our special request last week about a complicated village situation! It looks like questions of land ownership are in process to be resolved definitively. Pray that such conflict does not arise again to hinder the spread of the gospel.
- 🕊 Debbie continues to ask prayer for the lady with the abusive, alcoholic spouse. This neighbor was not able to attend Bible study this week because of her home situation.

Your partners in the Gospel,  
Verlin and Debbie Anderson

Last week: [New Coordinates - Anderson WEEKLY 170624.pdf](#)  
Last video: [Farming God's Way - Anderson WEEKLY 170610](#)  
2017 1Q Report: [Gideon's Gumption - 170520.pdf](#)  
2016 Budget: [CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2017](#)

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