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- A common Ivorian belief is that if children are given meat to eat, they will grow up to be thieves. Because of misinformation like this and poverty, many children remain malnourished and more susceptible to diseases.
- A neighborhood pastor and his wife decided to break with the cultural norm of piercing their daughters' ears because they saw nowhere in Scripture where it was necessary. They were lambasted for this choice, including one woman who said that their girls would grow up to be men because of that decision.
- The Ivorian government is making a concerted effort to stop child labor, a serious problem here (see a 2016 Child Labor and Forced Labor Report). The report mostly deals with child labor on plantations, but it can also apply to the more subtle abuse of young girls leaving villages to work as servants with families in cities.



Translation: Bondoukou says no to the domestic work of young girls

There has never been a better time for Children's CHE to permeate the country. We see how it could open doors to the Gospel and change lives. Pray Luc 10:2 with us that more Ivorians will see this amazing potential tapped and join two friends we know who start with the little they know. This year, Debbie will look over Children's CHE lessons that we had translated into French, making sure that they are usable. More key lessons will probably need to be translated.

The brother who shares Bible stories with children under the avocado tree using DMM Discovery Study questions is very welcomed in the neighborhood. So many children attend that he considers dividing the group! One child walks about 2 kilometers to attend. Three children of another family who come have a Christian mother and a Muslim father. The father visited him a few weeks ago to thank him for taking time with the children every Saturday. He said that his children ask him spiritual questions at home that he cannot answer, and he appreciates what they are learning in the club. Those three children go with the brother to church every Sunday now. This kind of setting is ideal for starting a parallel Children's CHE effort in Bondoukou.

Prayer and Praise

- Continue to pray for the three Discovery Groups meeting on Sunday afternoon and evening for Bible study. Ask that additional leaders emerge for each group.
- Pray for Children's CHE champions to step out in Cote d'Ivoire.
- Debbie's mother Sandra, who celebrates her 80th birthday today, has some answers for the cause of her back pain after an MRI and a consultation with a specialist. Ask that the steroid injections she has chosen to receive will bring relief. Surgery is possible, but she wants to exhaust all other options before considering that one.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin and Debbie Anderson

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2018 Budget: CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2018

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