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## Reckon the Cost

*Beneath the surface* of COVID-19 realities lies [greater dangers for Cote d'Ivoire and African nation-states](#). Several of our Ivorian friends anticipate that economic fallout from the response will outweigh the medical impact on who lives and dies. Family-run roadside businesses close. Gathered crops rot because of transport limitations in and out of the economic capital. The recent seasonal [floods in Abidjan](#) intensify the experienced losses. Continuing threats to national security by forces of centralization like [Islamic extremists](#) press, even where churches with whom we collaborate minister. The professor and his wife, who initiated public health CHE efforts at the university, share some of these analyses. The professor meets with masters and doctoral level students on their projects as holding classes is not an option for the foreseeable future. For that reason, we affirmed with them the cancellation of the annual UFHB training scheduled for September 14-18. While all anticipated the decision, it helped all to confirm it. Now we adjust our plans for the coming months.



Abidjan UFHB Training 2018  
CHE Small Group Exercise

## Remove the Rot

In a joint effort with neighboring countries that includes Cote d'Ivoire, [Burkina Faso removed several terrorist threats](#) in the region this week. West Africa remains a hotspot for jihadists. They move south on the continent to gain control over the Gulf of Guinea. They openly agitate in Nigeria, Niger, and Burkina Faso. *Beneath the surface*, their evil forces work in Cote d'Ivoire. Their constant efforts there are rarely visible but reside as a real and sobering opposition-strategy that merits our faithful prayers to find resistant and reversing solutions.

## Renew the Bonds

While assessing prospects for our fall return to Cote d'Ivoire, we spent time with Corbin, our younger son, in Missouri. We caught up with friends from college, shared ministry in numerous settings, renewed connections with several churches, and met new brothers and sisters in Christ. As we shared joys and sorrows with college mates not seen in over 30 years, one thing became clear: life is hard, but *beneath the surface* resides the never-ending faithfulness of a loving and resourceful heavenly Father.

## Prayer & Praise

- 🙏 Pray for the specific needs of Cote d'Ivoire and other third-world nations during these difficult days. With food sources rotting in fields, and disruption of roadside businesses and travel in Cote d'Ivoire by COVID19 and rain, the economic fallout will likely be higher than the pandemic.
- 🙏 Continue to pray for peace here and in West Africa ([1 Ti.2](#)). The [ongoing fight](#) by jihadists to wrest control of West Africa resulted in the death of over 4,000 people during 2019 in Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso. Pray that governments continue working together to achieve and protect the safety and liberty of their citizens. The Gospel cannot be freely proclaimed if they do not win this battle.
- 🙏 We thank the Lord for opportunities to be with Corbin, our son, reconnect with college friends, and renew other friendships in Missouri. We anticipate returning to Tennessee next week.

Your partners in the Gospel,  
Verlin and Debbie Anderson

Last weekly: [Follow THE Leader – 200620.PDF](#)  
Prior video: [Hidden Treasure – 200509.PDF](#)  
2020 Q1 Report: [Does God Propose? – 1Q 2020 Report 200215 PDF](#)

2020 Budget: [CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2020](#)  
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