

# Ministry Updates

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**The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he that winneth souls is wise.** – [Pr. 11:30](#)

## Routine Mettle Stiffens Mental Resolve

Right living forges life-giving, winsome mettle. While it sometimes challenges us to write weekly updates, the routine keeps like-minded persons informed and resolved to see God's will done on earth as it is in heaven. This week took extra effort on our parts. Debbie was caught in the grip of a nasty stomach virus, and Verlin met with a doctor to confirm that an earache had resolved after we finished our swing to see ministry partners in GA, FL, and AL. Making that trip helped stiffen others' mental resolve to do good along with us. Several let us know that their souls were refreshed by the content of our mission report(s) and illustrated by our acts undertaken to win souls in Cote d'Ivoire and here. In both places, we are privileged to serve with co-workers who pursue God wholeheartedly. Right living with perseverant routines stiffens us to act in good faith.



## Reliant Mettle Strengthens Loving Action

God Himself aligns creatures to do His good works, but He seeks willing partners rather than automatons. He melds servants' mettle to their needed forms by the Holy Spirit, encouraging them to face any challenge through the Word of Covenant. Debbie took heart and warning from the history of King Asa this week. In different wars with enemies, Asa had to choose whom he would rely on. In the first instance, when his outnumbered army faced a million Ethiopians, he faithfully sought the Lord first. ***"It is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name, we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let not man prevail against thee (2 Chron. 14:11).*** In response, the Lord gave Judah a stupendous victory.

Later, Asa relied on a different person to bring the king of Israel, Baasha, in line. Asa paid the king of Syria with gold and silver to halt Baasha's incursion into Judah. He got the desired result, but at a high cost. The Lord's prophet reprimanded Asa for relying on a foreign king instead of relying on God for the victory. During the remainder of his reign, he suffered war instead of rest.

Similarly, we each must choose whom to rely on when we seek to strengthen ourselves. While it is tempting to turn to family, friends, or professionals for help or advice or lean on our own strength and understanding, the Lord is the reliant One. He melds others of good faith to join together as needed. He strengthens us with ministry partners whose loving actions support and refresh many. May the Lord multiply our joint efforts of loving action so other right-living souls will learn from Asa to rest and rely on the Lord when their challenges arise.

## Prayer & Praise

- ☞ We appreciate the Lord's watch care as we traversed Florida from south to north with stops in Georgia and Alabama along the route. Pray that our safe travels and encouraging visits continue.
- ☞ Verlin's airline ticket is purchased. He anticipates leaving Dallas on March 7. The departure location changed to let us wrap-up some administrative details for the family sooner rather than later.
- ☞ As of January 29, there have been 27,695 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Cote d'Ivoire and 151 deaths. [This link](#) provides statistics for the neighboring nations, too.

Your partners in the Gospel,  
Verlin & Debbie

Last update: [Light and Lift – 210123.PDF](#)  
Prior videos: [Work, Watch, Wait](#) [Belief Trap](#)  
2020 Q3 Report: [Give me a "V" - 3Q 2020 Report 201024 PDF](#)

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