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## Accept the Covering

## "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." <u>Matt. 23:37</u>



<u>Bonding and attachment</u>, African style

## Be the Covering

During a season when we give thanks for the precious gift of motherhood in our families, Jesus' lament over Jerusalem provides poignant reminders. First and foremost, all the beautiful qualities we honor in Godly mothers — selfless love, daily nurturing, protective instincts, patient instruction, and so forth — are actually attributes of our perfect Lord. He pours these treasured qualities into <u>willing</u> <u>vessels</u>, so the glory is His, not the clay pots. Secondly, not all mothers exemplify these characteristics. Having rarely seen or recognized demonstrations of heavenly love, they need help. All mothers have to want the pouring in, seek it, and learn it (<u>Titus 2:3-5</u>). It is a developmental process, not a one-time bestowal that happens at the birth of a child. Even the best of mothers regularly fail and need an outpouring of help from their Lord. Lastly, the hen and her chicks reflect our potential relationship with the Lord. We can accept or reject the <u>cover of His wings</u> — a wonderful and sobering reality.

Verlin recently heard two progress reports that add credence to the community nurturing aspect of Community Health Evangelism (CHE). A new project represents the effort by one of the over 300 people our team has trained at the university. The professional prepares to train over 800 nurses in southern Cote d'Ivoire with CHE! We anticipate the effort will have life-giving impacts on thousands of people who will receive timely, wholistic care. Another trainer reported how CHE is building families in a community. The children in a village were falling behind academically. So, the committee divided the area into four quadrants. Two teachers and two villagers were assigned to each quarter to make house-to-house visits. These sixteen help hundreds of students and demonstrate to illiterate parents and/or to those who sense themselves ill-equipped how to assist their children. How fitting, since nurturing works best in the home.

## Prayer & Praise

- Pray for single moms worldwide whose roles are enormously challenging as they provide for and nurture their families alone. We are on the lookout for mothers close by that we can encourage and help. Praise the Lord for the immeasurable gift of our Godly mothers. We thank them for being His vessels.
- Verlin injured a foot, knee, and hand a few weeks ago when he stumbled while coming off a step at the house office in Bondoukou. A 300-mile drive on Monday put him to bed rest. Swelling of his left foot increased over 3 days but has now subsided enough so that the injury appears to be a foot sprain affecting medial, superior, and lateral foot tendons. Using the clutch on a lousy road just finished what the accidental stumble apparently started earlier! Pray for complete healing. This might take a while.
- Thank the Lord with us that our ADSL Internet connection in Bondoukou was restored this week, after an 18-month delay! This reduces costs and simplifies our Internet connections with everyone in the States.
- The Abidjan area of Cote d'Ivoire is subject to intense flooding and mudslides this time of year. It regularly affects thousands of people. Pray that the government improves infrastructure to bring lasting change to this severe problem.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last update: ACST X 2 = 1 God – 210424.PDF Prior videos: Work, Watch, Wait Belief Trap 2021 1Q Report: Timing Issues -10 2021 Report 210501 PDF 2020 Budget: <u>CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2020</u> Support these ministries: <u>www.che4a.org</u> Something to ask? Write: <u>updates@verlindeb.org</u> AWA represents <u>Andersons Witnessing in Africa</u>