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"I want to make a difference, with people who make a difference, living values that make a difference, taking action that makes a difference."—John C. Maxwell

"Regardless of what I do, I know whatever my purpose is: to make a difference in people's lives." —Tim Tebow



Making a Difference

On the twentieth anniversary of the deadliest terror attack on our beloved country, the above-shared thoughts resonate with us on many levels. The dynamic and heroic deeds thousands did on September 11 and the days following remind us how a nation can come together soberly and gratefully. May the spirit of sacrifice promoting freedom and truth reinvigorate and unite the USA again.

This week on African soil, we united with Ivorian co-laborers who share the dynamic and heroic desire to see God's Kingdom revealed in Cote d'Ivoire. Growing numbers now choose to use Community Health Evangelism, Education, or Engagement strategies. (Each abbreviates as CHE.) Eight trainers from the Ivorian CHE network joined university personnel to train forty-five participants in two Training of Trainers 1 (TOT1) and eighteen in a Training of Trainers 2 class. Experienced co-workers noticed a sense of urgency and commitment in participants to enact development that endures. Numerous mentioned they had received theoretical training for community development with few or no tools for practical application. The hands-on approach of CHE training assuaged their thirst. The university's vice-president and the director of [INFAS](#), which trains all licensed nurses and midwives in the nation, lauded organizers. They encouraged using CHE during the closing ceremony as they distributed certificates of completion.

Living a Difference

Little motivates individuals more than opportunities to unite with like-minded others and effect real, lasting change. Team members of four principal organizations worked together. Joyful service infused planning sessions, cleaning facilities, arranging rooms, printing handouts, facilitating lessons, encouraging stunned participants, cooking food, running errands, and praying. Most participants had never been in a classroom where they felt like a community, like family. They marveled at the participatory learning style and the connection they began to sense by the end of the week. One group started a WhatsApp group for their class to maintain contact! Pray these too succeed in living the difference and multiplying changes that last in Ivorian communities. Thank you for helping! Nothing endures longer in this world than God's Word implanted by obedient human hearts, except His Word.

Prayer & Praise

🕊️ Thank the Lord with us that the 2nd Scientific Congress transpired smoothly. Believing Ivorian fellow laborers who presented their CHE outreaches spoke well. We followed that time with the very stressful but successful week of CHE training at university research facilities. Many spirits magnified the Lord thanks to eight believing trainers coordinating with university staff and energized students.

🕊️ Despite Debbie's bout with malaria 10 days ago, the three sudden deaths of family or close friends among CHE trainers, and crisis intervention for a trainer's child in a precarious situation, everyone stayed composed and on task. These extra challenges provide one reason we did not send an update last week.

🕊️ Best of all, rejoice with us for lives transformed! Eight villagers who came to the big city for the CHE training received Christ as Savior Thursday night! They were lodged and fed at the headquarters of the marriage restoration ministry that hosts CHE trainers during the week. The villagers heard the truths of the Gospel in evening Bible studies led by another we trained before they orally reviewed CHE lessons.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last update: [Gems of Grace — 210828.PDF](#)
Prior videos: [PA Come & Go](#) [Work, Watch, Wait](#)
2021 Q2 Report: [Unshakeable - 2Q 2021 Report 210731 PDF](#)

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