

Ministry Updates

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Taste and See ([Psalm 34:8](#))

Troubled, but not distressed; perplexed, but not despaired; pressed but not crushed. The Apostle Paul shared these perspectives in 2 Corinthians 4:8 ([KJV](#), [NIV](#)). While never stoned, beaten, or shipwrecked like Paul, we have lived through difficulties in cross-cultural ministry, including threats of violence by armed men, unexpected displacements due to wars, cheaters, liars, and other unsavory characters. Those events create typically brief traumatic damages that can be evaded or overcome with insightful planning gained over a lifetime. We have also experienced confusion beyond that caused by betrayal. However, none compare to the whirlwind pressures associated with moving while maintaining goods and responsibilities in the States.

Living with a light hold on earthly goods is necessary but difficult to achieve while training family to manage what God makes available to our hands. There is no substitute for learning to manage creation other than our managing of things to prevent circumstances from managing the individual. We cannot teach others to manage their lives as **well-blessed** of God if we have not effectively managed ourselves. Controlling the distribution of earthly goods and services remains a top power play of tyrants to press, confuse, and attempt to crush others. Knowing how to do more with less at times remains a critical life skill exemplified by Jesus in the lifestyle He taught the disciples.



Come and See ([Psalm 66:5](#))

There are few times we feel so busy as this past week when we ready ourselves again to change continents for life and ministry. The past hundred days in the U.S. due to surgery were a blessing. As a good friend who bush hogs our property shared Thursday, he lives **well blessed**. So do we. We look forward to returning Wednesday to Cote d'Ivoire. There, we must hastily regroup and regain lost ground in planning. Failure to accommodate others' time pressures on the part of several people (including us!) during our May - July stint in the U.S. limits possibilities. The challenges of the university training scheduled for September 5-9 proved impossible to meet while taking care of all our varied U.S. citizen, church, and family responsibilities. Verlin expressed to our youngest son yesterday that this challenge is why we sold our Nashville house in 1998. Managing goods that we hold and services to maintain them takes time. However, as we approach retirement age in the coming decade, it is necessary to plan for life on both continents in this time of life. We grow increasingly **well blessed** with friends, partners, and favor having had the opportunity to speak or testify in seven different churches of Middle Tennessee. We also enjoyed conversations with family and friends. We have even begun new friendships during numerous necessary transactions.

Prayer & Praise

- 🙏 Praise the Lord with us for the safe birth of our closest CHE worker's daughter! We thank God for her blessed and uneventful arrival, especially since birthing tragedies regularly occur when babies are overdue in our area.
- 🙏 Pray for safe and uneventful travels for us on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- 🙏 Pray for the many complicated preparations for the university CHE training in September.

Your partners in the Gospel,
Verlin & Debbie

Last weekly: [Flooded, Part 2--220730.PDF](#)

Prior videos: [The Great Story](#) [Lasting Footprints](#)

2021 Q4 Report: [The Persevering](#) –

[1Q 2025 Report 220521 PDF](#)

2022 Budget: [CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2022](#)

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