

Ministry Updates

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Taste and See (Psalm 34:8)

People forget how much we learn **outside** formal educational settings necessary to live life. Acquiring skills and Godly habits that transform daily life mostly happens in other ways. For example, a loving family, friend, or mentor imparts attitudes and competencies to individuals willing to observe, imitate, and practice. One favorite lesson in a Community Health Evangelism (CHE) TOT1 lets participants reflect on how they learned outside of classrooms and how that best translates into changing behaviors. In the lesson, each budding trainer reflects on something they learned apart from school and the situation in which it happened. Here, men speak of learning to grow and harvest crops, care for animals, fish or hunt, or do masonry and carpentry projects. Women might share how to cook special dishes, care for children or a garden, or learn to sew and crotchet. Occasionally a unique example touches a whole class, as did a testimony shared last week.

A new missionary wife spoke of two habits infrequently seen in Cote d'Ivoire that she learned from her mother. First, the family constantly struggled to make ends meet as she grew up. Despite difficult living conditions, her mother excelled in managing the little she brought in by home business. She kept a jar with a lid always available. On selling an item, she immediately put the tithe in the container. NO ONE was allowed to touch the cash accumulated in the jar, and this obedient woman always knew how much to give to the Lord. Another habit distilled from mother to daughter was the careful measurement of grain. She counted the number of people eating at each meal and added a portion for the frequent unexpected guest. Every harvest, she then stored and counted the sacks of grain set aside to guarantee that what she had would last until the next crop became available. The daughter witnessed that her mother's precise measurement ensured that the family never lacked food. She proudly asserted, "We never wasted one grain of rice, ever." What a lifechanging impact this mother made! Many in government offices and running enterprises who attend Micro-Enterprise Development (MED) training annually at the UFHB have not learned these finance basics.

Come and See (Psalm 66:5)

After we completed the CHE TOT1 training at the incognito missionary training center, much learning



With director Chantal

happened **outside** the classroom. Couples and individuals quietly approached with medical and nutritional health questions as we packed up to leave. Some participants had suffered conditions for years without relief. They were grateful to learn about natural interventions like drinking adequate water, papaya leaf tea, and using moringa powder to bring healing, among other issues discussed for follow-up. In addition, much of this week entailed completing final edits of this CHE training format for Bible Institutes and missionaries. We also connected with CHE trainers in the region and got the process underway to renew our five-year residence cards.

Prayer & Praise

We are grateful to our American missionary friends, Steve and Carol Smith, who have been ICE contacts for us over many years. They let us use their Abidjan mission home during the CHE training while they are in the U.S. The quiet location sheltered us from the megacity's pollution and noise. In addition, their kind offer cut our lodging costs for the training!

All the necessary items for Debbie's CPAP are now in the hands of our son Corbin in the States. Pray for the safe delivery of the machine by UPS or DHL in the upcoming weeks.

Pray for the missionaries preparing to go to their fields of ministry. Also, ask for natural solutions and healing for those suffering from various illnesses and conditions that hinder daily life.

Your partners in the Gospel,

Verlin & Debbie

Last weekly: <u>Bread</u> – <u>221112.PDF</u>
Prior videos: <u>Snapshots</u> <u>The Great Story</u>
2022 Q2 Report: <u>Someone Greater</u> –
<u>2Q 2022 Report 221022 PDF</u>

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