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Taste and See (Psalm 34:8)

Thanksgiving really should be <u>thanksliving</u>—a way of life—morning, noon and night—continually, forever giving thanks to the Lord.—Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth

It was an unusual Thanksgiving week for us—no American meal and busy days in Abidjan offices. Instead, our family holiday participation consisted of sitting on the side of the road where available Internet service let us speak with children and Debbie's parents on Friday for an hour. Perhaps next week, we will eat the orange-gourd-based substitute pumpkin pie! Situations like these remind us that the actual Biblical imperative is for daily **thanksliving**, not just celebrating a Thanksgiving holiday one day a year, though it is a beloved holiday in our family.

Come and See (Psalm 66:5)

Several necessities caused us to delay traveling home for another week. (We finally made it after midnight Friday night.) Verlin fulfilled promises to provide some resource ideas and made one more visit to the missionaries finishing their training and preparing to go to their places of service. Debbie spent hours over days researching CPAP delivery with our insurance company, sleep doctor's office, and medical supply company. The contract for her replacement equipment is a rental for several months rather than a purchase. This arrangement complicates shipping the machine. Also, there is the question of how Cote d'Ivoire customs will process the medical equipment and the fees that would ensue - \$250 or \$550 per DHL quotes Verlin obtained. Also, suppose the equipment gets lost or damaged. In that case, the equipment's value must get paid by us to the medical equipment company regardless of insurance. Next week, we should finalize the information we need to consider the pros and cons of shipping the CPAP, or Debbie returning to the U.S. for it, handling required follow-up with the sleep doctor there, and completing other business.

In addition, our Ivorian identity cards expire in December and January. So imagine our surprise that a five-year card has jumped in price from around \$65.00 to about \$525.00 each. Yet another moment to practice the discipline of **thanksliving!!** Thankfully, several workers at the government office helped us expedite getting a criminal record check and residence certificates.



With their assistance, we quickly turned in all the necessary paperwork. Finding all seven puppies alive when we arrived home was also fun! (White, the runt of 7, pictured with a sweet visitor whom Verlin counseled for a persistent cough today. She's the daughter of a local Gideon & evangelist who sends reports using our ADSL Internet connection.)

Prayer & Praise

- Thank the Lord for His mercies that never end and get renewed every morning! Praise Him for help with paperwork processing and safe travels.
- Pray for a woman nearing death from kidney failure. She needs to make her peace with Jesus. She is the sister-in-law of a close Ivorian friend for whom dialysis and transplant are unavailable.
- We thank you and the Lord for some extra gifts given to our mission account in November! Join us in praying for abundant provision through December, so ministry here continues unhindered.
- Pray for Christian Health Service Corps missionary colleagues. They get forced to leave a place of service at the mission hospital they initiated for a denominational ministry in another African nation. The situation is stressful, grief-filled, and a logistical nightmare.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

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Prior videos: Snapshots The Great Story
2022 Q2 Report: Someone Greater 2Q 2022 Report 221022 PDF

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