

Ministry Updates

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Taste and See (Psalm 34:8)

Our nation mourns the heartbreak of another school shooting. This time hit closer to home as our ten-year-old granddaughter attends a school in Nashville, too. Politicians and special interest groups pressed their own **narratives** to advance various causes. One journalist tried to get a pastor whose precious daughter was murdered on Monday to comment about gun control. More alerting to us: a transgender group tried blaming the Christian values of the school for the deranged woman's actions! A day comes to debate and better protect our children, but this is not the time. Certainly, the Church must further grapple with learning effective means to love and assist transgender people in finding personal peace without compromising Biblical truth or kowtowing to harmful demands. Nevertheless, pressing divisive **narratives** does not hold hope to heal the wounds of any who grieve right now. Displacement of blame abounds. May we learn to overflow with compassion and help during tragedies yet resist succumbing to a simplistic, worldly **narrative**.

Come and See (Psalm 66:5)



Last week of Internship

Anyone can get caught up in believing an unfruitful or harmful **narrative**. Most reading these words are being saved from some! Misunderstanding reality with failure to apply God's directives to every aspect of life hinders personal and professional growth. Verlin and another master Ivorian CHE trainer, Emmanuel, facilitated eleven of the 33 lessons shared during the week. Five of Verlin's seven sessions emphasized Biblical **narratives** that birth and sustain abundant life. Lessons of spiritual emphasis displayed multiple graces that God gives believers to

show He is **the** King and Law-giver of our world. Confounding and deceptive human **narratives**, designed to stoke fear and exert human powers, must be confronted by sharing accurate, Biblical **narratives** that address our social morass. In this way, people escape further tragic experiences inculcated by self-loathing, despair, grief, and other ills. When Biblical truth permeates a person's chosen life purpose, decision-makers can guide and collaborate with them to use common understandings and communicate God's love in action.

Verlin and Emmanuel shared the strength of using Discovery Bible Studies (DBS), Bible storying, organization, team development, and motivational examples that build God honoring social **narratives** in a society. Because many participants were eager to hear details of the extraordinary growth of CHE in Cote d'Ivoire (RCI), the trainers from the RCI affirmed knowing of around 200 groups in that nation. We explained how **narratives** have made the difference. Interns from other countries learned how the Lord opened doors for us sharing Community Health Engagement at the university to change false intellectual **narratives**.

Prayer & Prayer

Thank the Lord that our diesel Toyota Hilux keeps going and going! The tank was accidentally filled with gasoline, emptied, and refilled with only diesel before starting last Saturday. There seems to be no damage!

- The CHE Internship finished Thursday, with most participants leaving before today. Verlin expects to be in Ghana for eight additional days. He plans to visit pastors who minister in Ghana with interest in, or who already use, transformational CHE strategies to build church communities, transform local societies, and build God's Kingdom rule. He also hopes to see another medical missionary couple who serve at the Lord's call to Ghana with the Christian Health Service Corps (CHSC). We'd appreciate prayers to the Lord for the safe and uncomplicated travels of all who return home, and that they grow to effectively use what they learned.
- Pray that the Lord of the harvest sends more laborers to rescue valuable 'grain' out of the myriad of sins and unbiblical **narratives** that plague the nations, including the US. Next, pray we become more effective in teaching resistance and demonstrating His power to overcome the ungodly thinking and efforts that confound God's revelation in today's generation. Finally, pray that accurate **narratives** from the Lord's Word gets increasingly embraced to bring peace on earth, goodwill to all, and comfort those who grieve their losses.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last weekly: <u>Keep Watch</u> - <u>230325.PDF</u> Prior videos: <u>Snapshots</u> <u>The Great Story</u>

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3Q|4Q 2022 Report 230121 PDF

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