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Taste and See (Psalm 34:8)

Our words may impact a person in extraordinary ways on any given day, even if our spoken content is merely **overheard**. When Simon Peter spoke in the high priest's courtyard as Jesus was on trial, a servant recognized that he was there because of Jesus by his Galilean accent (*Mt. 26:73*). Though Peter wished to hide his identity, his words betrayed him. Likewise, our daily words proclaim our attachment to Jesus, whether spoken directly or **overheard**! In our world driven by fear, gossiping about the impacts we see & feel of the Gospel touches people; obedient response to the Savior's love informs more hearts of Good News than will ever hear attending Easter services. Similarly, a Muslim teenager in Bondoukou prayed to receive Christ years ago. Immediately, her family began persecution, commanding her not to attend church or speak with Christian friends. Spies followed her around to be sure she complied. Believers who knew her situation came up with a plan. They walked behind her on the street within hearing distance and talked about the Lord, quoting Bible verses or singing songs to encourage her. While they could not speak directly to her without inciting further abusive harm(s), they found a way that she could **overhear** the truth!

Come and See (Psalm 66:5)



One of sixteen communites touched by William CHE by Dayo Obaweya and had begun to use the strategy. Still,

While in Ghana, Verlin learned that words he spoke in 2019, **overheard** by a Christian teacher named William, changed lives. Apparently, Verlin was sharing with CHE interns how the Kingdom of God differs from the kingdoms of this world using a pyramid and inverted pyramid. (Some of you may have heard this example in a sermon he preaches!) Earlier, William had been trained to use

he was in a season of impasse using the approach with self-imposed minimums, not doing what he knew he could do. Overhearing Verlin's words to others reinvigorated his commitment to using CHE. He passionately relaunched an effort to reform local education in the Aveyime district. Dayo continued to mentor him and the other people he recruited. Touched by polio in childhood, William perseveres in all things, limping through life to see the glory of God revealed. He now runs a school he started for disadvantaged children, including orphans for whom he finds homes. The team he leads mentors 375 children between the ages of 3 and 23 y.o. The children learn their Ghanaian lessons, memorize Scripture to sensitize their hearts to God's Spirit, and work with their hands. Sixteen villages now run CHE programs since William decided to do what he knew to do.

Prayer & Prayer

- Thank the Lord for Verlin's safe return to Bondoukou after excellent visits with an Ivorian ministering in Ghana, the <u>ICS</u>, and <u>fellow Christian Health Service Corps (CHSC) missionaries</u>.
- Pray for Debbie's travel as she boards the airplane on Tuesday to arrive in Cote d'Ivoire on Wednesday, April 12. Unfortunately, her temporary Ivorian paper permitting entry has expired. We trust the photo of the valid card that <u>Verlin retrieved</u> on December 22 suffices at airport checks.
- This year, the Muslim world adheres to the Ramadan fast as we celebrate a risen Lord on Easter. Pray that Jesus reveals Himself to many seeking hearts while Muslims fast and pray through April 20. Pray that they will **overhear** Christians speaking messages of truth about our Savior!

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last weekly: <u>Keep Watch</u> – <u>230401.PDF</u> Prior videos: <u>Snapshots</u> <u>The Great Story</u>

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