



Ministry Updates

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

During our travels to Abidjan to expose Community Health Engagement/Education/Evangelism (CHE) training for community leaders at the university some weeks ago, we mentioned hiring and training a Christian brother to drive our vehicle with a trailer since Verlin's foot remained weak. Paul drove excellently, having learned defensive driving while engaged by the UN during their peacekeeping mission. We noted his efforts to stay **alert**. We stopped halfway to meet, stretch, and eat, but he declined a full meal and drank a little so he would not get groggy. He sought to keep his senses on high **alert**. On reflection, his discipline reminded us that distractions can be deadly. When a child learns to walk here, they must now observe traffic and look for snakes after dark in Africa. We must monitor our puppies as they explore the yard lest they fall prey to Parvo from known risks or get stuck somewhere. (Debbie got soaked this week in a thunderstorm while searching for one missing puppy that could not find its way out of the cage.) These are just a sampling of daily things humans naturally do in the physical realm to avert dangers to life and liberty.

As followers of Christ, we know the Apostle Peter characterizes Satanic opposition as a prowling lion threatening our life and liberty. Many neglect the need to stay **alert** in spiritual realms. All know of lives destroyed by "harmless" online friendships, sampling recreational drugs, dabbling in the occult, or rationalizing small thefts or entertainment distractions that form sinful habits. No wonder Scripture warns us to "keep our heart with all diligence" in [Prov. 4:23](#). Verlin exchanged experiences with a collegial friend this week who sought others experienced with exorcisms when Satanic traps take prisoners. The stakes are high when our walk with the Lord grows careless.

On the side of positive outcomes, opportunities to serve and witness abound when we remain **alert**. Last Sunday, Debbie chatted with some church leaders about the university opening in Bondoukou in January. They agreed that Discovery Bible Studies (DBS) would be an excellent outreach opportunity for believers who think ahead and prepare to engage with students. Verlin planned Community Health Evangelism trainings this week because of prior astute observations during a funeral and while walking to regain strength. Most readers have experienced how kindness or responding to a distressed stranger can lead to spiritual conversations. We must stay **alert** and maintain some outward focus, not only inward ones.

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

Thankfully, the Lord allowed Verlin to stay **alert** as he drove Wednesday night to Abidjan. This last trip plans meetings, obtains supplies, and connects believers in ministry before we leave. His meeting with the CHE leader, who arranges three consecutive weeklong CHE trainings, was profitable. Verlin will miss being able to assist the training accommodating succession for a large denomination by raising a second generation of CHE leaders in their ranks. However, he provided names of alternative trainers and suggested approaches while hoping to help in follow-up trainings next April, since we have followed with this group since 2007. He continues his travels to north-central Cote d'Ivoire to visit other pastors using or considering using CHE strategies. At his return to Bondoukou next week, we will focus on prepping for three months in the US.

Prayer & Praise

🕊 Pray for Verlin's travel and visits to CHE trainers/pastors this weekend and early next week.

🕊 Thank the Lord that Verlin was able to connect an Abidjan missionary with a Lebanese friend with hopes of future outreach to some of the over 600,000 Lebanese in Cote d'Ivoire.

🕊 During more than 16 hours of online testing and assessment, Debbie stayed **alert** this week. Verlin will complete these and other assessments while in the States, a part of our "head to toe" check-ups recommended by our mission.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last weekly: [Resolute – 231014.PDF](#)

Prior videos: [Simple Servants – Reflect & Rejoice](#)

2023 Q2Report: [Pruning Priorities –](#)

[2023 Q2 Report 230722 PDF](#)



Drive alertly. You never know what you'll see on the road. This TDF transport has bad sprinas, shocks, and tires

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

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