



# Ministry Updates

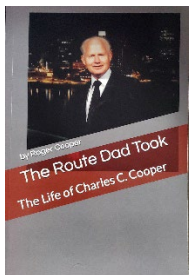
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## **Taste and See** ([Psalm 34:8](#))

The final [Lectio 365](#) morning devotional of 2023 shared that the population of England in 1738 had less than 5% confessing Christians and only 5 members of Parliament who professed Jesus as Lord. The following year, a Great Awakening began after a New Year's Eve prayer meeting where Charles and John Wesley met with friends. All of England changed to see church pews refilled, slavery ended, and free public education provided. Things are not as dark in the US today as they appeared then. However, revival here would undoubtedly be welcomed if accompanied by fruits of repentance like the age-appropriate sacrifices made by the then-powerful to end slavery and provide the masses training for reading, writing, and arithmetic skills.

The more things change, the more they stay the same—conversion and revival according to the truth God has revealed changes social contexts. Bars and brothels close, church attendance increases, social cohesion increases, abuses lessen, and health care and education get renewed foci. Community Health Evangelism (CHE) practices lead many to Christ in Africa, who, in turn, change their lives and influence the lives of others living about them in these listed concerns for good and good yet to be revealed in other ways.

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



Since we are stateside for this short stint, we've prioritized visiting our supporting friends and ministry partners whenever possible. We've been church-hopping most Sundays. As a result of one visit, Verlin reads a biography on the life and ministry of Charles Cooper, a man whose family has been good friends and fellow servants of Christ with us. Their family, as ours, has been blessed by a heritage of *paterfamilias* passing the Gospel successively from one generation of family to the next since the Reformation. [The Route Dad Took](#) is Roger Cooper's biography, which shares his father's challenging and touching life in ministry.

We, our children, and our grandchild spent the end of 2023 together in a family retreat over three days to catch up with one another's lives and discuss family priorities. While conversations ranged widely, Deb and I shared the possible changes of ministry focus in W. Africa should our physical, neurological, and psychological exams affirm that we've no limitations to continuing there in good conscience.



## **Prayer & Praise**

- ✿ Pray the streak of no surprises and surprisingly good reports continues as Verlin completes his physical exams in the next two weeks and begins the neurological exams to get a clean bill of health for continuance in Cote d'Ivoire.
- ✿ Pray for the additional interventions that Debbie makes for managing her blood pressure without drugs and for anticipating the care needs of her parents in an orderly fashion.
- ✿ Join us in praying for a revival that touches our world and changes political calculations.

Your partners in the Gospel,  
Verlin & Debbie

Last Week: [Who is He-231223.PDF](#)  
Prior videos: [Simple Servants - Reflect & Rejoice](#)  
2023 Q2Report: [Pruning Priorities - 2023 Q2 Report 230722 PDF](#)

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