



AWA Ministry Updates

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

Executing Jesus' command to **watch and pray** is a very needed yet challenging posture for those desiring to honor our Christ Jesus in word and deed. As Jesus warned the disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane, we easily fall into temptation when we lose the perspectives that a **watch-and-pray** discipline provides. Debbie reflected on this [linked article](#) during the week. In it, David Giarrizzo (a professing believer unknown to us) lists nine ways to practice Biblical waiting in our lives. For decades, Verlin has taught corollaries of his points when explaining time management to others:

Pray while watching to see if God moves others to do what you understand needs to be done, be it yesterday, today, or tomorrow. If no one else steps up, yet God continues to provoke you to act (or wait further) as demonstrated with inner direction, outer circumstance, or both, step forward in faith, confident that you follow Jesus in His steps prepared for you.

The result of a **watch and pray** discipline is the penultimate reason we returned to the U.S. for the anticipated 3-4 months. We returned despite the incredible advances of witness to the Gospel on the ground where we have patiently persevered in Africa for more than two decades, anchoring Christian behaviors in Spirit-led, Biblical precept. Success in exercising discipline to wait on the Lord, joined with prayer, requires that patience is not considered passive; it is faithful trust in the leadership of God's Triune, Sovereign Word, to push us to act at the appropriate time on time. As Giarrizzo puts it, "Biblical waiting is not a passive activity, but is demonstrated by active dependence upon and obedience to God."

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

Our busy weeks here persist with a few unanswered reasons for which we continue to **watch and pray**. Verlin sent his paperwork to the Ghanaian Embassy for a renewed visa to participate in the West Africa CHE Internship in March. His purchased flight from Nashville is March 1. However, per the USPS delivery text messaging service, the passport did not arrive at the destination for processing until Friday rather than Wednesday! So, the visa process is not progressing as quickly as we had expected. It may cause a rescheduling for Verlin and others with whom he communicates, or maybe not! ☺ We **watch and pray**.

Join us in **watching and praying** for Debbie's continuing role development. She spent four days in her parent's home this week. Her mother, Sandra Payne, takes a second round of antibiotics for lower limb cellulitis. She also needs relief from edema related to heart valve regurgitation. Never one to enjoy the limelight, she trusts the Lord's healing touch through whatever means seems fit to Him. Debbie and her sister Laura **watch and pray** to see what needs to happen next while putting legal and organizational documents into place to help all concerned. Thank you for praying.

Prayer & Praise

- 🙏 Pray that Verlin's passport with renewed Ghana visa arrives for him to depart on March 1.
- 🙏 Pray that watchful prayer continues to guide the final planning for the West Africa CHE Internship. Ask for faith in God's provision to guide attendees.
- 🙏 Ask the Lord to grant everyone clarity in the actions taken for Sandra's health (Debbie's mother). We trust that her caregiving team of doctors, daughters, doting husband, and aides will find the right combination of medications and processes to provide her with better function, mobility, and relief.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last Week: [Unexpected-240217.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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