



Ministry Updates

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

As dedicated athletes **run toward** victory during the next two weeks in Paris, we will enjoy hearing inspiring stories of perseverance—especially those who recognize the glory due to Jesus. Frankly, though, we were deeply moved by the accounts Prime Minister [Netanyahu](#) shared during his address at a joint session of Congress this week. While the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) are renowned for their unwavering determination and bravery, few can demonstrate it as Lieutenant Avichail Reuven. He is the IDF soldier of Ethiopian descent (*check out why East Africans are such great runners [here](#)*) who grabbed his rifle and **ran toward** danger--eight miles on foot to the frontline established with Hamas on October 7, 2023! There, he engaged heroically in the battle. We wonder if Israeli soldiers regularly quote their warrior King David as they go into combat: "*Blessed by the Lord my strength who teacheth my hands to war and my fingers to fight.*"

([Ps. 144:1+](#)).

Thankfully, most people do not anticipate enduring the horror that occurred last October 7 or the need to **run toward** actual battle as Reuven did. Still, the stakes remain even higher in the spiritual battles waged for personal and Kingdom of Heaven victories. Eternal ends get set. May the Lord "teach our hands to war" appropriately while contending for the faith ([Jude 3](#)). Our Savior desires to teach humble souls His eternal life-saving skills for our daily use.

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

Verlin returns to Cote d'Ivoire this Tuesday. He **runs toward** a host of errands and details to click off while preparing personnel, material, and space for the university's Community Health Engagement (CHE) training. Despite last week's mobility concerns, he spent three days at the FWB convention in Tampa. After [exercising on his knees](#) last Saturday morning because of foot pain, he successfully combined heat, cold, and anti-inflammatories to recuperate and spend Sunday on his feet, packing and traveling to Tampa that night! Debbie stayed home to catch up on additional financial reports further. Working together, we have about two-thirds of that work done.

Prayer and Praise

☞ Thank the Lord! Verlin connected by phone with an Ivorian on the CHE university planning committee this week. He checked on progress and got the ball rolling on several issues. Pray Tuesday's flight to Cote d'Ivoire arrives safely and that planning sessions with the university team yield no unsurmountable surprises before he drives to our home in Bondoukou about a week later.

☞ Thank you, incredible ministry partners, for faithful giving during slow months. Although our monthly mission-giving totals remain a little low, May, June, and July of 2024 were higher than last year during the same timeframe. We are grateful for all you do, so we do not fixate on fundraising!

☞ Ask for the Lord's wisdom as Debbie concentrates on family needs with her parents for the next few months.

Your partners in the Gospel,
Verlin & Debbie

Last Week: [In our Stead-240720.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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