

Ministry Updates

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"Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."

Taste and See (Psalm 34:8)

David's above-cited prayer is from <u>Psalm 119:18</u>. We've used it as a prayer to open Bible studies and <u>Discovery Bible Studies</u> for decades. Israel's kings were instructed to write a copy of God's law and read it daily (see <u>Deut. 17:18-20</u>). They needed **fresh eyes** to prevent the habit from becoming meaningless ritual, if they bothered to do it to keep alive God's vision in their souls! How true for us, too—especially if we have had access to the Scriptures for decades.

Different seasons of life also point out the need for fresh perspectives. In our case, accepting Debbie's dad into our never-meant-to-be-permanent-trailer-home required **fresh eyes** to see our food, entrances, and rooms with the needs of an 85-year-old in mind. Certainly, the birth of a child or grandchild also entails seeing home design and life, in general, with a fresh perspective.

Come and See (Psalm 66:5)

In the literal sense, one of the most precious examples of **fresh eyes** is a newborn baby taking in the new world around them. We joyously met Deborah Eowyn (to be called 'Wyn') as our latest granddaughter, watching her eyes begin to accept light and start to see the people whose loving voices she has been hearing in muffled tones for months! Chelsea, her older sister, pictured holding Wyn, prayed for years to have a sibling. Missionary friends <u>Bobby Aycock</u>, <u>Sue Aycock</u>, and <u>Don Robirds</u> recently opened their eyes in Heaven like a dear family friend of Verlin's, <u>Janice F. Johnson</u>, a couple of weeks ago. We imagine as the Robirds' children shared during their father's memorial service, that these who have gone on before us share the perspective of a Gospel standard, '<u>It don't matter where you bury me</u>.' They see glory with **fresh eyes!** We especially think



Sisters!

of the Aycock family, as their children and friends plan a second funeral in the space of a week.

Prayer and Praise

- Thank the Lord for our daughter-in-law's (DIL's) blessed delivery and a granddaughter's safe birth Thursday morning! The process started in the ER on Wednesday because our DIL was ill and dehydrated. Everyone is doing well now, and we loved meeting Wyn on Thursday afternoon!
- Pray for Community Health Evangelism (CHE) teams in Cote d'Ivoire. Verlin touched base with different members of the national team of trainers the last two weeks, along with others in Bondoukou. They await news of our return plans. Verlin reiterated the uncertainties while stating an expectation of returning no later than July once plans for the care of family members are firm.
- Pray for the Robirds, Wilson, and Aycock families. May the Lord strengthen the Aycock's children and friends to keep them well as they plan a second funeral in just a week.
- Continue to pray for suitable housing and assistance for Debbie's father, Eddie Payne. Waiting lists, care, and financial issues complicate the process. We appreciate the time together at our Cookeville home until a practical location becomes available.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last Week: <u>Nudges-250308.PDF</u>
Prior videos: <u>Worth</u> - <u>Simple Servants</u>
2023 Q2Report: <u>Pruning Priorities</u> -

2023 Q2 Report 230722 PDF

'22 Budget: CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2022

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