



Ministry Updates

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



Goodbye, Beau

Debbie's chronological Bible reading plan passed through the book of Judges this week. She pondered how Samsan's spiritual **chains** of lust eventually led to his physical **chains** of slavery and death, but had no idea that soon we would have a sad doggie tale to further illustrate the point. Our handsome, strong, well-trained Rottweiler guard dog, Beau, broke his neck trying to escape the 12-foot by 12-foot fenced area where he was **chained** to prevent him from getting to a female dog in heat. Over the years, we tried various ways to keep him safely in the cage during the days of a female being in heat. He escaped overnight several times, scaling the four-foot chain-link fence to mate with Luna. This last time, something went terribly wrong. Our Ivorian

co-worker will now search for a male dog to train as a fierce guardian. Thankfully, we do have two female dogs in the yard. Hopefully, would-be thieves will not realize the best protector is gone.

Temporary **chains** that were intended to prevent more puppy deaths resulted in the loss of a great guard dog. What a sober reminder that the Lord gives us restraints—commands—that are for our good, even if they sometimes feel like we are in **chains**. We may "get by" with some impulse or habit, sinful or otherwise, for a while without apparent consequences, but not forever.

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

Distance feels like a **chain** when trying to transfer funds to another country. Verlin is trying another way this week to get money to Cote d'Ivoire from here without a fee like Western Union charges because our vehicle insurance payment is due. When we are there, the banking process to receive funds from the U.S. is now simple and fee-free. He seeks to make larger transfers without the funds passing through European banks. In addition, Verlin completed several more projects to help Debbie's dad adjust to living with us while connecting with several Ivorian ministry partners.

Debbie thanks the Lord for some free legal advice from a Tennessee lawyer this week on her dad's behalf. The counsel she received will help with important decisions for her father. We are also grateful to friends who have provided contacts for senior needs in Cookeville and offered to help build a ramp at the entrance of our meant-to-be-little-used 1066 sq. single-wide home.

Prayer and Praise

☞ Thank the Lord for a planned CHE training to occur in the east of Cote d'Ivoire. An old site may re-engage. Pray enough trainers and local funding make it effective. Also, pray that new ministries emerge or gain strength through those who attended the West African CHE Internship in Ghana.

☞ Pray for us as we attack time-consuming mission efforts, stay connected with ministry partners in Cote d'Ivoire and here, and monitor Debbie's dad's health while searching for housing. Thank the Lord for friends who have offered to help build a ramp for easy entry into our non-permanent home. We are also blessed by several new contacts for government services this week.

☞ Ask our Father to open the hearts of new friends and neighbors we have made here in the short time here. May they be willing to hear spiritual conversations and consider finding a church home.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last Week: [Fresh Eyes-250315.PDF](#)

Prior videos: [Worth](#) - [Simple Servants](#)

2023 Q2Report: [Pruning Priorities](#) -
[2023 Q2 Report 230722 PDF](#)

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

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