



A John and Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>



Little Lambs Inc.

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JUNE 2013

The Fatherhood of God!

Finding several books by DeVern Fromke, I was intrigued to read "Ultimate Intention". This book was first printed in 1963 and it is astounding how more and more true it has become. His premise then was that the church had become 'man-centered', what redemption provided for man. What man got out of it. It is easy to develop a 'redemption focus', that the highest glory is the redemption of man. By making man the center of God's purpose, the end seems to be conforming to the image of Christ. We have made salvation our focus, or man completing His spotless and glorious church the end; even perhaps the man bringing about the final universal reign of the kingdom. "Man is ever prone to interpret God's work as it benefits and relates to him, without concern for the yearning desire hidden in His Father-heart," says Mr. Fromke. All of this man-centeredness distracts from God's purpose and grace. The lesson is that the best fathers are not 'me' focused but rather focused on and patterned after our Father God.

"God has saved us and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began." 2 Tim 1:8-9 The eternal purpose is to reveal the heart of the Father, it is all about God! Jesus said his purpose was to reveal the Father to man, "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." Matt 11:27 Choosing a family for His own was in God's mind before He started creation and redemption. Redemption was built-in should man sin, but it was not the purpose of creation. The Father chose a family to reveal Himself to and to have us participate in His eternal purposes.

We are called to fellowship with the Father when we are born again: the fellowship of the gospel. Phil 1:5

As we learn to walk in the Spirit we have the fellowship of the Spirit. Phil 2:1

The Spirit will lead us and reveal the Son to us for fellowship with His Son. 1 Cor 1:9

As we grow to know and share in intimacy with the Son we enter into the fellowship of His suffering. Phil 3:10

Yet we can only endure the fellowship of His suffering because of our deep and abiding knowledge of the Father as revealed to us by Jesus and in the Word and as we participate in His eternal purposes for us. We are not merely centered 'in Christ', but with Him we are in God the Father. It is no longer our victory, but His. It is not longer our purposes, but His. We are a totally new creature.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory Eph 1:3-14



Postage Due!

Every day we see the need to assist men and women in prison with the basics of life. Return postage for some is an extravagance. In earlier times, the prisons actually mailed the inmate lessons back to us for them. Those days are long gone with the budget cuts. We have always had a postage due account at the post office so that any letter or package can be delivered to us and we pick up any required postage. We have also made available a self addressed stamped envelope for indigent

inmates to return their lessons on request. Many of our lessons are subsidized this way. Here is a letter from such an inmate along with a \$100 check!

Dear John & Eileen, My name is Mark and I was a prisoner at a Southern California Prison. I wrote to you and enrolled in your bible study program. You provided all the materials at no cost to me, even providing return postage for me. The studies you sent gave me a better understanding of God's Word and His plan for my life. I am now on parole and in a position to give back and assist in your mission. The appreciation by prisoners like myself probably never gets expressed, but what you do for us is a blessing. Thank you for all you do. May God continue to bless you and your ministry. In Christ's love, Mark.



From Louie in AR.... A Graduate

Dear Salas, What you all are doing, you should be commended for your work. I hope and pray that God richly blesses you all for it. May everything you set you hands to do turn into a blessing.



I can truly say I looked forward to getting the studies every time I sent one back to you. For I was richly blessed to do them. When I started on one, I hated to put it down before I finished doing the whole thing. If you ever add to or start another course, I want to receive it. For all of the studies I did, yours was very good. And I tell people here about them.

I received the New Living Translation Bible on April 20th. Thank you very much for it. It was worth every minute I spent studying to get it. You are wonderful folks! I'm proud to say "I did your studies." Be blessed in the Lord for you work. Love you all in Christ, Louie

The Lord put it on Bro. Edmund's heart to write after learning about John's death and he told this story.....

Some friends and I were discussing bible study courses. I had to mention the Little Lambs School of the Bible, and what an excellent course it was. The Lord woke me this morning and put it on my heart to write you this small testimony.

A FATHER'S LAMENT....."A. Blessing"

Well I'm 51. I've been in and out of trouble all my life. Always heard of Jesus and never took him serious. As I was growing up I had a girlfriend who gave me a son. But being the hard headed and rebellious young man I was and irresponsible...being responsible was not in that picture. Little did I know the Lord had other plans for my life. For one I am very thankful and blessed to be writing you. I accepted Christ June 3, 2002 and I was baptized. Well, my son has all grown up. He is now 21 years old. I was at Lake Correctional when I got a Christmas card and a letter. You couldn't tell me nothing. I know the Lord done this. There has never been a drug or alcohol that could have given me a high to match the high that day. No man sure can't. I still have that high. My son was never given my name which fueled my anger. Then I was brought up on child support charges. I refused to pay, never did. I was never in Alexander's life.

At that time, I never knew what a blessing was. In that Christmas card, Alexander wanted to come visit. I didn't even know what to do, shake his hand or hug him. I asked my dad, he said just be yourself. We began to talk on the phone. He and his mother had given their lives to Christ. It was great. I told myself I was on a role with this luck thing. However this is no luck at all, no sir, not at all. It was a blessing from the Lord. I never prayed and asked God for anything. The Lord just blessed me. Life is much like the wind comes and goes. So before my son and his mother could visit, he and his mother were murdered July 8 by his stepdad.



Was I ticked off. That might be a proper word to describe that moment, but the moments afterwards is what told the real story. It's what the Lord wanted me to have and to realize it only lasts for a limited time. Folks, the Lord will give you the desires of your heart. He gave me mine, 21 years later. These are blessings and they are for only a limited time. There's not a soul who can convince me differently. Not even Satan himself. So all of you folks out there in the free world and on the inside, there is such a thing as a blessing. They are from the Lord. He doesn't operate on luck, he operates on "A. Blessing." Edmund, Suwannee Correctional, Fl

Father, help us to be more thankful and to recognize the blessings when you give them. Father I ask in Jesus' name to let this article, "A Blessing" be a blessing to some who will read it. Anyone, Father. Where ever they come from. Let it be a witness for you, Father. I ask in Jesus' name Father. Let you will be done. Edmund.

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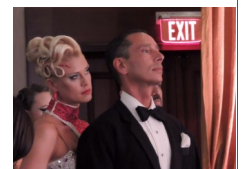
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Hello everyone! I want to take this time to thank all of you for your prayers and kind thoughts. Having just returned from my son's wedding in Arizona and enjoying family time, I feel very inspired and rejuvenated and glad to escape the 109 degree heat of the desert. Earlier in May, I visited my sisters in Louisiana and had a great time of reconnecting.



Sisters Lula, Carol, Eileen

We are going into the summer months, Jan is taking the month of June to visit her family in Ohio and snow birds are headed home. We will surely miss them. Our long-time volunteer, Delora Christian is in rehab with a new hip and out for a month or more. Jo Anier has joined us again after years of being away. Sally and I will be in the office throughout the summer. I am available for counseling in the office now, too.



Mr. & Mrs. Alex Aillon

We will start new classes in June beginning a session at the prison on Tuesdays as Phil Esposito continues his class on Tuesday too. We will have a new Biblical Boundaries/Anger Management Class starting June 12 at the First Presbyterian Church also. Registration is in full swing. We are in the process of seeking foundation grants for Grace Place and Lisa Shackelford is helping us with this project. She and I are slated to visit several programs for reference and pointers. We hope to have a time line soon for re-opening Grace Place.



Mom & Son Alex

Thanking God for the glorious rain, and for you and your fellowship in the gospel.