



Behold, I go to prepare a place for you....

Dwight Ryan

2013 has been a very life-changing year at Little Lambs Inc. This month we have lost two very important people in our Little Lamb Family. Around the first of the month, Jan Ryan's husband of 59 years, Dwight, went home to be with the Lord after knee surgery. Jan and Dwight were our first volunteers ever! When we came to Sebring in 1998, John and I spoke at a 'Joy' meeting and Jan and Dwight immediately volunteered. Jan and Dwight had experience and a passion for inmates being Kiro's volunteers at several prison Walk to Emmaus Weekends and with Matthew 25 Ministries on the East Coast. Jan and Dwight served on our Board of Directors. Jan still serves but Dwight retired some years ago when he had physical problems. When we moved to the Ridgewood office, Dwight was there to oversee our physical plant needs building walls, wiring,



and many other things as Jan served in our office. He was our go-to man for anything construction. Through the years, they have served me as very faithful friends and trusted advisors and spiritual strength as my Sebring family. Jan said to me one day, "I've got your back!" That is a very good thing in spiritual warfare! She is a praying woman and walks it out. My last visit with Dwight in the hospital he said, "That's the boss." and blew me a kiss. He died suddenly a day later.

Dwight was 86 years old and had a very fruitful life. Although we will miss him and his dry humor, we know that he rests with his Lord. Jan continues to be our mainstay at the office of Little Lambs and we treasure her and her heart for the men and women in prison.

Sally Phares

We lost another long time volunteer with Little Lambs, Sally Phares, on Oct.6, after a short hospital stay. Sally served with Little Lambs since 2000. As a church friend of Jan's, she joined us as a grader. Her position gradually grew into two days a week at the office and unofficial overseer of the reformatting of the bible study lessons. As mail became more expensive we decided to revise the lessons and lower the type fonts and sort of shrink them to save weight some years ago. Sally gladly did this for us on her computer. Grading the lessons every single day, the Word of God had an impact on her spiritual life and one day she called to say she wanted to make a deeper commitment to the Lord inspired by the Word and the inmates' letters and comments written in the lessons. Both she and her husband Bob prayed and served the Lord more deeply since then. Bob died several years later as a result of cancer.



Sally's passion was the first time students. She always insisted on grading the lessons from the new students; we had to save them for her. She would pour over them, make special study questions and every effort to be sure that they understood what was asked of them. We use special handouts with different lessons that she created to enhance the inmates knowledge and understanding. Sally was our sort of 'unofficial quality assurance committee'. She made sure we kept our mistakes to a minimum, carefully going over all outgoing mail for accuracy. We will miss her perseverance and dedication. Although she suffered from increasing difficulty in breathing, she came to the office until the week before her death. She graded lessons until she went into the hospital. She did not want to give in to the hospital because she said she 'hated to give up going to Little Lambs.'

Although we will miss these beloved folks, we know their work will live on. I would like to see the crowd of former students when they arrive in heaven. What we do in secret will be seen by our Father in heaven. They served without remuneration or fame and without public acknowledgment and we know they have been rewarded in heaven. If you feel called to serve as a volunteer, please pray and ask God if Little Lambs is the place for you, especially if you like to grade school papers and study the Word! Call for more information. 863-471-2626 or 863-273-7388



Essay: Anger Management/Parenting by a recent Graduate (who did extremely well on exam!)

When I was court ordered into anger management, I chose "Little Lambs" because it's faith based and I believe Jesus Christ is my savior. While my court case is rather petty, Little Lambs (Eileen) has given me much more useful information I can apply to my personal life.

As you see on my Genogram there is a lot of conflict in my family. Growing up my goal was to have a strong, united family for others to draw from. Seeing the family dynamics is hard enough, but to recognize and understand them is extremely difficult. Even more so without a good upbringing. So I'm not without my own mistakes, but I'll never give up.

Taking in the lessons on Wednesday nights brought a lot of clarity. Learning about boundaries, addiction, love tanks, abuse, etc. help me to realize why I and others acted in certain ways. Additionally I feel as though I have the tools to have the foresight to see things coming in the future instead of being caught off guard.

In a world full of 'red tape' Eileen and the Little Lambs classes was a pleasant surprise of warm information that I will use for my family and I for years to come! THANK YOU!

New class
Boundaries/Anger
Management/
Parenting
Starting Nov. 13, 2013
10 weeks
Call to enroll
863-273-7388



A NEW GRADUATE: THE OPEN BIBLE

I have just received the OPEN BIBLE. I have found many new insights and facts about His word. Don't get me wrong, there is no substitute for the Holy spirit to bring us to the wisdom of the truth, however with so many spiritually motivated people putting their knowledge together one does get a better insight into God's will. Words can only begin to express my heartfelt gratitude toward you and this ministry for giving me a chance to know what it is like to have such research and understanding at my fingertips. I am reading it thru and I'm now in 2 Chronicles. I found this Open Bible very concise and understandable along with having a very good reference section and a lot of extra helps to keep me on track. I often am asked to research certain subjects in the Bible for other inmates and this Open Bible has so much to offer anyone, from the Beginner right up to the one who has already been eating the meat of His word. My hat is off to you. One thing for sure, you and this course and this wonderful new Open Bible has added to my Spiritual strength greatly. Tony, FL

Avon Park Correctional Graduation Class Essay
I have realized the profound depth that the impact of my parents have had upon me and by extension, the behaviors I have carried forth into adulthood, marriage, and parenting. Coming from a broken, abusive, addiction-fueled environment filled me with all sorts of false beliefs about myself and the world in general. This is not news to me, but what I have learned in this course is the extent of the wreckage. These false beliefs permeated areas I had not previously recognized. They've painted each breath. Seeing these things for the first time is overwhelming, a fearful experience honestly. I see that I can and have begun to unravel this web—to see all the darkness in full light. It is unpleasant to look in the mirror and take responsibility for damage I have caused in my own family— my wife, my daughter— but I must. I've come to understand that this is a cycle inherited, passed down through the generations. I can choose to be the breaking of that cycle. The past cannot be undone, but the future and right this very moment are yet to be written— it is my calling to take up the pen and write a more spiritual, aware, honest, loving life. This class has empowered my entire family and for that we are all grateful! "Admit, Believe, Surrender" is a courageous and noble mantra—one that will continue to guide my steps, one that will allow my tank to be filled with God's love. I am blessed.

Dear Partners, Last night we had Graduation at Avon Park Correctional and it is always a joy for me to see the growth in the men as they literally survive 16 weeks of hearing the most devastating things about one's self that they could hear. Of course it is not directed personally, but non-the-less, it hits home. I have found with the Lord, as long as we don't know what to fight or how to fight, we seldom get the victory. But these 16 men persevered and when we read their essays on the impact of their study, we realize that God has been at work not only with repentance but with healing and victory. Amen.

If anyone can help, we have a little couple that are in need of a used vehicle. Joe has been sober since January, completed our Overcomers program and will submit to the Faith Farms Residential Program for more recovery. Joe and Jamie are getting married before he enters the program and God is changing their lives. If you can help, please call Eileen at 273-7388. October saw us enroll 149 new students! This is the highest month in several years. Please remember us as mailing costs will go up next year with the increase in postal rates scheduled for January.

Please welcome our newest volunteer, Jackie Walker. Jackie comes from a local church and will be in the office every Wednesday. She comes from a 9 year background in recovery and is eager to work with the women in trouble as well. She will start her training by attending the Boundaries-Anger Management course in November.

We all want to wish every one of you a very Blessed Thanksgiving! We feel very blessed to serve with you in this Ministry.
 Much love, Eileen

Newest Volunteer
 Jackie Walker

