



John & Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>



Little Lambs Inc.

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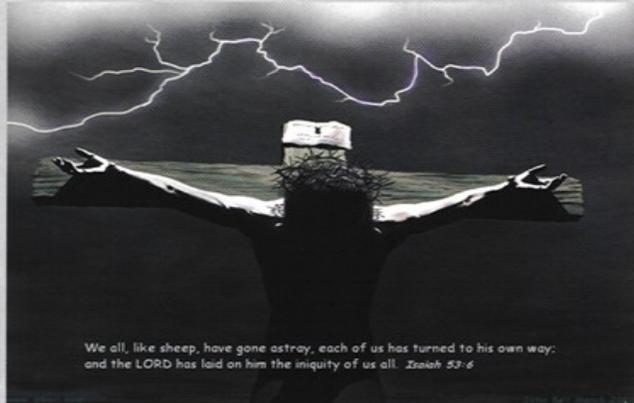
The Reality of the Cross: It is not a social Gospel!! It is the SALVATION of the SOUL

The Shadow and the Reality

"For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect."



"Then said He, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that He may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."



We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:6

Bronze Altar image by Shelley Silver (www.bible-history.com)

Cross image by John Bell (www.jrbell.com)

When another soul is saved, we are brought again to our knees by the power of the cross. So many want to ignore the Old Testament Principle of Sacrifice and tell us that we need to socially raise people up, to bring about a 'heaven on earth' for all people, to mandate social justice. All of this takes our focus off the real mission of the cross, to save us from our sins. Of course, as the world sees it, there are no sins, only the freedom to do as we please. They need no savior. They only need more freedom from God. A deadly reminder were the people at the tower of Babel. The heathen were raging at God. Speaking all one language in their revolt, they mocked God and his laws. Anything they imagined, they could do. And the tower began to rise.

They were much like Satan when he said in his heart, "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High." Isa 14:13-14 And the tower began to rise.

But God had a plan. He would rule! He destroyed that tower and divided mankind and the languages that day. His mission, to bring a Savior into the world, was laid out in the word: The Seed of the woman, His seed, was to come and destroy

death. And rebellion as well. And as a lamb led to the slaughter, Jesus opened not his mouth as all our sin and rebellion were laid on him. Jesus died for us on the very Passover day long ago.

Sin is so glorified today, that man thinks he needs no Savior. Yet this Easter season reminds all of us who believe that God did indeed send His Son, a lamb without spot or blemish, to die for us.

When a man or woman comes to us, lost in their sin, slowly dying because of it and it's damage, God's message of hope and love rekindles a desire to live and to love, and the door of their heart opens to receive the love of God. What a glorious God we serve! He is the God of the living, not the God of the dead!

Easter Blessings to all of you!



Behold I will do a NEW THING!

Isa 43:19

"Enlarge the place of your tent,
stretch your tent curtains wide,
do not hold back;
lengthen your cords,
strengthen your stakes.

For you will spread out to the right and to the left;
your descendants will dispossess nations
and settle in their desolate cities.

Isa 54:2-3

In 1976, at the age of 12, Carmelo and his brother Eduardo were living on the streets of

Puerto Rico. Soon thereafter, Carmelo met and was befriended Pastor Jose Garcia of Hogar CREO, a Christian home for wayward youth and drug addicts. He was in and out of the residence over the next 8 or 10 years, in the streets, drugs, etc. returning for refuge from the streets. He officially joined their program in 1984, although he did not accept the Lord, he was disciplined by the founder, Pastor Jose Garcia. After time he went on staff for the home and became their point man to organize, set up and open new homes for the association. He opened homes along the east coast from Pennsylvania, New Jersey down to Florida. This was his mission until Pastor Garcia died and in 2009 he left the organization. He was with them for 25 years.

By this time his brother Eduardo had become a believer being disciple by the Samaritans, he had gone to university and was ordained a Pastor. In 2009, he was pasturing in Avon Park, Fl, when he had the opportunity to lead his brother, Carmelo, to the Lord.

Soon thereafter, Carmelo felt a burden from the Lord to open a home in Avon Park. He explains that in the small town of Avon Park, it felt the most like a real home. The wide open spaces and close to nature was very different from the big cities. To accomplish this, he used his own labor and that of first two men in his home, and slept on the floor. His wife cooked for everyone as well as made pastries for sale to raise funds. They poured their hearts and hands out to establish the home. They were joined by Esteban Garcia, a graduate of the program in 1993, who is now the third in command.

That was in 2009. The home was opened in downtown Avon Park just off main street and continues to be remodeled. They are celebrating their 5th year in ministry there. The program is called HOGAR, RESA, loosely translated as Home, a Refuge for Restoring Souls and is a residential 16 month Christian program. A huge advantage is that the program is bilingual; they accept men of all class and color. The program consists of two tracks: one, a 3 month residential track but with a full five year follow-up of frequent visits and mentoring as the candidate remains drug free. Two, a 16 month residential track after which they graduate. As is typical with a good program, many of the men remain to become staff for this facility as well as the facility in Puerto Rico. With a current student body of 30 men, they are bursting at the seams. They receive no government funds but work to support themselves. They have had lots of success and will be graduating 16 men May 31, 2014 and celebrating 5 years in ministry for HOGAR RESA.

I have told you the testimony of brothers, Carmelo Ruiz and Eduardo Lebron and their ministry, HOGAR RESA for a reason. Since John died, I have sought the Lord in the direction for Grace Place. For over a year I felt comfortable waiting. When I met these brothers, I felt a witness in my spirit. They did not seek me out, it was one of those God things where I had to be prodded into meeting someone new. After much prayer and counsel and investigation, the Board of Directors of Little Lambs Inc, has decided that we will partner with HOGAR RESA. Grace Place will remain a refuge for people suffering from addictions, only now it will serve men, which I believe will indirectly serve the women they love and their families. On March 31, 2014, HOGAR RESA will officially move into Grace Place with Esteban Garcia as the 'supervisor' with a group of men in the program.



Little Lambs
Inc.
&
Hogar RESA

Carmelo Ruiz
Eileen Sala
Pastor
Eduardo
Lebron



Staff & Leadership

Left is Esteban Garcia, who will be the lead staff and right, are the two student-leaders, Antonio and Ricardo. Antonio, in the orange, will be responsible for the running of the house and grounds and Ricardo will be his assistant. Esteban has worked in recovery since 1993 and is a program interpreter.



Roberto and Angel

Angel on the left was the first resident of HOGAR RESA in 2009. Roberto was also in the first group of students. They remain with Pastor Ruiz, working with him and training for leadership and staff. They are very excited as they explore their new home. And as Pastor Ruiz has learned to appreciate, a 'home' atmosphere is one of the keys in recovery, a safe place to leave your heart. Many, like him, have wandered through childhood without a real home. The program serves as a 'new parent' and a 'new home'. Everyone came Monday and we had a clean up day with lots of hard work.

Our Partnership

As the mission of Little Lambs has included helping those struggling with addictions, our partnership will enhance those efforts. HOGAR RESA has nightly meeting and classes and bible studies, Spiritual Therapy. In any clients court ordered for substance abuse treatment with us, part of their program will be attending night meetings at least twice a week at HOGAR RESA at Grace Place as well as attending biblical boundary classes with us. We know that men holding men accountable will produce a deeper recovery. Both our organizations do not receive any government funding thus there is no charge for services. We are eager to share our teaching and experience with the program. I find them of pure hearts and Little Lambs has chosen to support them in their efforts.

Part of the fundraising of HOGAR RESA is a service called "the Brigades". Typically the men in the program bring all kinds of skills with them. One of them is a retired veteran! These brigades are men that can be hired out for work as the case may be. If you have a need, as in landscaping or clearing land, or patio work, painting or cement, you can call the program supervisor at 863-657-2064 or 863-212-2988. He will then make an appointment and give you an estimate which you could then donate to the ministry in exchange for the work. This donation is not tax deductible because you would have received a service for the donation. But this donation will go to support the work of HOGAR RESA! And the men are willing to work to contribute to their upkeep. The men of HOGAR RESA also make pastry available for sale throughout the year. You may even pre-order for the holidays. Their specialty is Caramel Flan, a custard in flavors of coconut, vanilla and cream cheese.



Left is Maria Ruiz, the wife of Carmelo. Maria worked with Carmelo to establish the home and continues to serve in the ministry today. They and their two children live in Avon Park.

Dear Partners,

Having sought the Lord for a long time, I feel confident that He is in control and at peace with the future of Grace Place. What better mission could we have than helping families by helping men become good fathers! I feel that we have a lot to offer beyond the physical home. I am sure that our experience in other areas will benefit them. I would specifically ask you to keep them in your prayers as we stretch our tents in the Sebring area. I am finding that no experience is wasted with the Lord. During the 22 years I was married to my children's father, a physician from Colombia, I became very comfortable among the Spanish people, even learning a little of the language. We had the opportunity to start our School of the Bible in Spanish about 10 years ago and countless men have been affected by that ministry. Now I feel the experience has prepared me to anticipate working with Brothers Carmelo and Eduardo and Esteban.

I want to thank you, our partners, for your support and faith, and let you know that I think you have made this tremendous blessing available in Sebring. You have no idea the gratitude expressed by these young men for the opportunity to be at Grace Place. We know that the need is tremendous, and now we have a great resource here. And these two men are passionately in love with the Lord. All of you have been with me from the beginning and we are asking you to pray for all of us, that we may have the wisdom to lead His people and pray for the convicting power of the Holy Spirit to fall on all who enter this place.

Much love, Eileen Sala