



John & Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>



Little Lambs Inc.

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Love: Fake Love vs Real Love

This month, February, the world celebrates ‘love’ - human love. As humans we often love to get love, which is a fake love. We are really loving ourselves. We can even come to God with fake love—what am I going to get out of this relationship? Fake love rules our world today. Fake love says I will love you when I get something out of it, and usually it’s what I want, not even what I need!

God celebrates ‘real love’. Real love says I will love you even when it would be easier not to, even when it is costly to me, even as I deny myself. This is the kind of love God wants (expects, demands) from us. First, he gives us this kind of love: creating us when he knew we would rebel and sending his own son to die that we might live. It certainly would have been easier to destroy the world altogether with its sin. Then he expects this kind of love from us in relationship to him. As a holy God, he demands holiness –which means absolute obedience. All else is sin.

Love and obedience are bound together in the heart of God. Without obedience, it is fake love. If we say we ‘love him’, we obey him. Jesus said, “If you love me, keep my commandments.” Even when it would be easier, more convenient, more profitable, more comfortable, safer to obey ourselves, real love says, I will do it never-the-less. Without obedience it is fake love. We are fooling ourselves that we have a relationship without obedience; we are on the throne, not God.

Obedience says, “I will never lie, even when it costs me.”

Obedience says, “I will never commit adultery.”

Obedience says, “I will serve and worship no other gods, not even myself.”

Obedience says, “I will love my neighbor as myself.”

Obedience says, “I will be sexually pure.”

Obedience says, “I will guard my lips and say or eat no unclean thing.”

Obedience says, “I will touch, see, hear, handle no unclean thing, either unclean books, movies, people, tv, songs, music etc.

Obedience says, “I will do what is right in God’s eyes, not mine.

Obedience says, “I will uphold God’s standards, not the standards of the world.”

It is a new standard that we must live! Not the standard of the world, or the culture. It is God’s standard of love. I pray that we all love with God’s kind of love. He has given us his precious Holy Spirit to enable us to love with this kind of love. We can do it.

Partners, I can't tell you how encouraged I feel. After visiting the men in prison on Tuesday night, I am so energized. They are experiencing a profound sense of repentance and sorrow as we progress through our material on verbal abuse, part of our Marriage and Family class, recognizing their own offenses and the need to repent and do the deeds of repentance. The most often asked question, how do I go about making it up to my family? For some there were tears as they saw themselves as they really are for the first time. To see one man's rigid face, never so much as a smile, often a deep frown (seems to be disapproval) change into a relaxed face and an openness perhaps even acceptance after 10 weeks makes me shout halleluia! Some are lifers, and will never leave prison I will teach these men for about 6 months, a long time of intense discipleship. One graduate once said to his class, "I see you as eagles, not turkeys, as you walk down that road to class week after week knowing the arrows that will pierce your heart." Is God at work or what! Transformation. After class a serious very tall young man came up to speak to me. He said, "I just want to let you know that me and my wife are talking now and things are much better. I never opened up to her and now I am starting to open up and we can talk. Thank you. I just want to let you know." Awesome. In class we pray for change and the courage to change and God answers our prayers. Rejoice with me and keep all our students in your prayers. Also all our volunteers! Tom & Evangeline Johnson are home and he is recovering from heart problems. Maria and Santos are going through some hard times now and need prayer too. These are all volunteers of our Spanish School of the Bible. Eileen

New class
Boundaries/Anger
Management/
Parenting
Starting Feb 12, 2014
10 weeks
Call to enroll
863-273-7388

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What I learned in Parenting Class (Anger Management)

Boy, I sure wish I'd have know about a class like this before I had children. I know I would have been better prepared to nurture them, armed with the fact that everything I thought was 'normal', the way I learned it, was generational dysfunction, passed down like a cursed heirloom. I learned that boundaries are not to be thought of as walls in a concentration camp, but more like guide ropes that line the way through the turns on dark corners of life. As long as you hold on to them, they will keep you safely traveling down the train. But if you let go of them, you could slip off the edge of the path very quickly and get hurt.

I learned that in order to love, you first have to be loved—not the 'dysfunctional' love of this earth, but to know the awesome, blessed, holy love of God, which thankfully I found in early adulthood. At least that is one thing I've got in my corner. And I learned about an awesome action called 'detachment'. That word in itself has helped me to step back without feeling guilty and reassess my life it gave me the strength to face my father for the first time and to tell him how I felt about him and my issues with him. It was very liberating.

But mostly what I learned from this class, is that every father, mother, daughter, son, sister, brother and friend needs to take it or some form of it! If not for themselves, at least for their family, present or future. I have recommended it to my family and friends as a 'girls night out' of sorts. Knowledge is power, but the true power is the knowledge of learning about yourself and why you are the way you are. Because once you have the knowledge, you have the power to overcome and to move on. God bless Little Lambs.



What I learned in Anger Management

Before taking this class the littlest things would set me off. I would blow up at people and have no remorse but after taking this class I have learned to control my temper and have learned patience with every bad action I have there are consequences, some good and some bad. I have learned to not take things so personally. When I find myself getting upset I find ways to restore my serenity and peace. I have learned that my actions doesn't just reflect me but my children also. I do not want my children stuck in a generational curse so I am breaking the chain. Thanks to this class I am a much calmer person.

Hi, my name is T.R. And I am gonna tell you what I learned this 10 weeks Anger Management class. I have learned to e a mother to my kids. The way to bring them up through life it's not all about just beating a child. Just sit a child down and talking to them helps a lot. Also and controlling my madness. I finally see I have a lil anger problem that I really didn't know was there. I learned how to have a good relationship in life with my spouse someday (not married). I never knew life was so hard coming up but with God on your side all things are possible. In my problem I felt like I was the co-dependent in my life. I have been in a few relationships where I always being the one gets hurt. But doing this class really helps me look past the past and focus on the future. And in a way I am glad I got to come to this class but not glad I had to get a charge to do it and be on my record. The way of freedom for me is start talking, thinking, reeling and trusting and changing and detaching from bad ways and things. I try and go to church a lot cause as a child that's was all I knew growing up. The teacher who teach the class was a sweetheart. I really enjoyed being here. As I write this I have tears coming down my face cause I know in my heart I can be a better person in life so I am asking God to help me. Please, Lord, Please. Thank you!

Dear John and Eileen, I'm a born again Christian, I will be 65 y/o February 28. I'm also a lifer down 22 years March 18. By all rights, I should be on death row. You see my case really is a murder robbery that carries 25 to life without parole or death. I lied to them when they asked me if I robbed him when I killed him. Yes I did rob him. I made him give me his money, so I lied to man and to God also. So all this time that I have been telling everyone that I was a Christian, I was living a lie because I did not tell the truth. So while I was in C. S. Prison, I tried to get them to take me back to court so I could tell the truth. I was willing to take the chance of receiving the death penalty and being executed. But I was told that they would not retry me. so now I know when I stand before God I'm clean in his eyes because I wanted to tell the truth. I want to do your studies and lessons but I need help with postage so I can do them. I know that you have sent them to me before and that I failed to do them but I want to do them if you can help me. Thank you, In Christ George.

Schedule for February 2014

- Tuesdays.....Bible Study with Phil Esposito
Avon Park Prison
- Tuesdays.....**Marriage, Family & Parenting**
Avon Park Prison with Eileen
- Wednesdays.....Overcomers Addiction Recovery
Bible Fellowship Church @ 6 pm
- Wednesdays... Anger Management/Boundaries
Starting February 12, 2014
- Pastoral counseling by appointment : 471-2626

POSTAGE GOING UP TO \$0.49 FOR THE FIRST OUNCE AND 21 CENTS EACH OTHER OUNCE.
JANUARY 29

**POSTAGE SUBSIDY MEANS MORE STUDENTS!
THANK YOU FOR HELPING US MAKE THIS POSSIBLE. WELL OVER 50% OF STUDENTS REQUIRE HELP WITH RETURN POSTAGE.**

