

Little Lambs Inc

A John & Eileen Sala Prison Ministry

www.littlelambsinc.org

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February 2016

This week, as I prepared to write this letter, I have had two calls and visits from women, crying and in despair! Crying because they are in extremely abusive relationships. They have many similarities: both work to support the male; both began the relationship with the male who had nothing to offer, no faith, no job, no car, owing child support, using porn and other substances. These women worked very hard for years to keep these males comfortable, all the while being emotionally abused by multiple affairs of the male and verbally abused as they were told everything was their fault. Our culture has moved far away from the biblical model of a man being able to support a wife and any children from that union before he takes a wife. Instead, it is have sex for fun, don't worry about anything. The result is a lot of single mother families and absent fathers. Many not only do not honor the union with marriage, but as youths, many men do not bother to finish school, or to learn a skill or profession to support his family! Now as adults they need to be supported. So the relationship is out of biblical order and doomed to failure. And unless you've been church-ed, you have no clue how dysfunctional all of this is. It is so accepted by our culture, that the government actually pays to continue these conditions.

Sounds familiar? This is the over-arching problem we see today. The common feature is that no one in this picture has any personal boundaries! Wanting so desperately to be loved, women will take any man—even a womanizing drug dealer! Many men have the same problem with domineering women: being needy and wanting to be loved, men will accept addicted and abusive females as partners and the same dance begins. At the right is a diagram we use in class to demonstrate this phenomenon. How quickly people identify with the man on the rug!

But being desperate is God's waiting room! What an opportunity! First, this desperation proves that they cannot manage their own lives and they need God! And they will listen. For some, it means a return to God; for others they will get to know, trust, and love God as He works with them to sort everything out.

After knowing God, they need to be disciple with boundaries! How to say "No" appropriately. Most healthy people have no trouble saying no. But to someone who believes they are weak and needy, their fear of being alone keeps them saying yes to abuse. They have become a doormat and a push-over. This is codependency in its finest!

This is where our wonderful Women's Codependent Recovery Group comes in. We minister to codependent men and women through our Family and Marriage/Anger Management class, but this class is designed as a support group for women to learn about and practice setting good boundaries as they work on their relationship with God. One problem we often see, is parents who are codependent with their children and have given up control of their homes. Women need support as they embark on a whole new way of letting go and letting God heal and lead them. This new group starts on February 4, Thursdays at 6 pm, upstairs at Little Lambs and is headed by Mary Tinberg. Women are welcome. Our goal is to teach women to rely on God, not man and to learn how to have good biblical boundaries in relationships. All women are welcome. These two women are committed to come. We are happy to accept any referrals.



Bibles, Bibles

Dear Little Lambs, I am writing you to let you know I received my new King James Version of "The Open Bible" on December 30, 2015. I cannot thank you enough for sending it to me. I have never seen one quite like it. It will give me an open and rewarding book for personal bible study, an overview of the whole bible message. I am going to enjoy the Text, Bible Study Helps, and Biblical Information. It allows for in-depth study with alternate translations, equivalent translation and literal translation. The conceptual references are also nice. The point-by-point study of basic bible doctrines is laid out quite nicely. This will be my Bible I will read and cherish as long as I shall live. I am doing well here in Chino (CA), and will keep you posted on my walk with God. Thank you again— God bless you ALL! Love Tony Ca

Dear John & Eileen, Praise the Lord! :) today I received the brand new Thomas Nelson Study Bible (Open Bible) that you sent! :) I cried happy tears! I'm so happy and thankful! It's beautiful! Jesus 'letters' in RED to! :) That's always a plus! May God bless you and your ministry, you do good work! :) Just yesterday I received my last lesson from you, along with a very nice letter :) and a couple of wonderful certificates. You were saying it might take a couple of weeks to get the bible and to let you know when I got it. Well, here I am :) letting you know! Praise our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! His birthday is 3 days away but I am the one who got the present! :) I can't wait to start reading it and 'learning' how to read it. Of course, it's about living God's word, not just reading it :) With God's Holy Spirit as my strength and guide, I'll be just fine no matter what :) *Thank* you* so very much for the wonderful Christmas present and for the joy and privilege of taking your bible course. It is very educational in learning God's Word. Well I am so over-joyed with Gratitude and Thankfulness for the Beautiful Study Bible you sent! :) Such a Joy! *Happy *New* Year* I pray for you and your ministry that god would bless you and reward you for all you do :) We serve a great God who rewards. *Thanks *a* Million* for the wonderful Bible! :) Peace and love, Kyle MI (Kyle expresses his happiness with smiley faces!)

Dear Little Lambs School of the Bible,

There are not enough Thank You's nor words to express how much your Bible Study, notes, prayers and the Thomas Nelson NKJV Graduation Study Bible means to me. I've spent the day in my new Bible, learning what was where as far as all the study material that is included. I am also transferring my notes from my KJV Bible that I've had over these past six years here in Texas Dept of Criminal Justice.

Your Bible Study has been one of my most favorite and has taught me so much about our precious Lord Jesus Christ, His love for us and what as a child of the Most High God truly means! I am so blessed to be one of His children. I give all glory and thanks to our Lord Jesus for you, your ministry and all your volunteers. Again, I thank you so very much for all you have done for me and for the incredible study bible. Catherine Tx.

Women's Codependent Recovery Meeting

Beginning February 4, 2016

6:00 Pm @ Little Lambs Inc. Upstairs

With Mary Tinberg

Codependency: the inability to say no, even to things or people who harm us, and the inability to set functional boundaries, especially with people we are in relationship with.

Codependency: fear of being alone and being incomplete, thus trying to complete ourselves with other people rather than God.

Codependency: can be just as strong a prison as drugs and alcohol and just as dangerous.



God's Word is the key .



Gordon graduated in 2014 and wants to thank you!

Little Lambs

My name is Gordon W. I am currently incarcerated at the Bill Clements Unit. I studied your bible study and completed it. Little Lambs sent me a bible which I use all the time. My release date is March 11, 2016. I'm writing to tell all of y'all thank you for your studies because while I was doing them the times through the studies here were very difficult, so through our Heavenly Father's mercy and grace, he sent the Little Lambs and His word to help me. In Psalm 57, it says 'in the shadow of your wings I will seek protection until these troubles pass'. Father has done that. Our Heavenly Father has kept me safe here because of his love. Please remember a life was changed because of your studies and your love. May Yeshua and Yah bless you both. Shalom by brother and sister. Big Daddy Weave. Tx

Dear Salas, I would like to wish you all at the ministry a Happy New Year! You guys have been such a blessing to me in sending your bible studies. It didn't matter where I was being transferred they always made it to me! I've learned so much from your studies and what it's like to be cared for when it was my birthday. your ministry is a huge blessing to those locked in the gated communities I am in now. I've read John's book "I'm Not Coming Back" several times. What a testimony he conveyed about his life and the intervention of God's holy Word! I love you all by the grace of God in my life too! I used to be a pretty bad person but have been forgiven by the blood of Jesus. God Bless, Aaron CA

Dear Little Lambs Inc. , Hello, my name is Grant S. a Texas inmate. I'm currently incarcerated on an eight year sentence for the crime of Burglary of a Habitation that I committed in 2008. That that's what I'm in prison for right now, I can't honestly say that was the only crime that I'm guilty of committing. Unfortunately, I had already been living most of my life in sin by the time that I was arrested for this crime. I had even been denying the existence of God. My life was on a downward spiral and it was only getting worse.

I didn't begin to believe in the Lord until 2012. I can't explain the amount of sorrow and despair I had built up inside. But when I finally surrendered myself, my life to God, accepting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, I no longer felt that loneliness to be so heavy and unbearable. From that day on, I felt as though Jesus was with me no matter where I went. Just like anyone else, I stumbled many times but He was there to help me get up and try again. Now I'd like to learn as much as I can about His Word and how I can lead a life in which He would be pleased with me. I was given some addresses for places that offer free correspondence Bible Study courses, literature and other resources. Your organizations address was among the ones given to me, that's the reason for this letter. I'm writing to request that I be enrolled in your bible study course. Please grant my request if it's at all possible. I'd like to thank you for any time and or effort that you may put forth towards fulfilling my request. The service that your organization provides to inmates such as myself is a blessing. Thank you and God bless you. Grant , Tx

Dear Little Lambs, I just wanted to thank you for the bible you sent to me. It is beautiful! I showed it off, in a good way :) I am giving your address to a few men so they can study as well. Once again, thank you so much, God bless, Daniel chowchilla ca

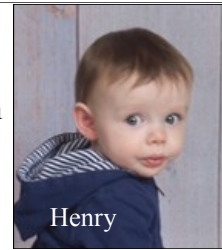
It seems that we got a lot of letters which expressed so much joy this month! Here is another one:

Hi, it's David G. here. I love your bible study courses and appreciate the time you take in which it takes to create them. I am learning so much. It helps me learn where scripture is located in the bible and learn in a way I would have never thought possible. Keep up the work you Guys are doing. Praise the Lord Jesus Christ!! Glory, Glory, Glory to the Lord Almighty!! Could I be involved in the Little Lambs Newspaper? Also could I receive a copy of John's Book "I'm Not Coming Back"? I have no way of purchasing it and would love to experience it! Thank you so much for everything!! Peace be with you all!! Please pray for peace within my incarceration and for this to be a positive thing for me!! Could I receive return postage to send my lessons back?

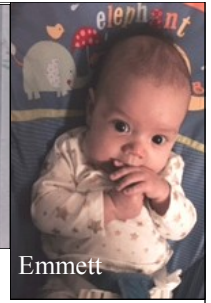


Alex Jr.

Our Newest Family Member: Alexander I. Aillon Jr. Named for his father and grandfather, little Alex was born January 20, 2016, in Portland, to Alex and Jessie Aillon. Mom Jessi, and baby are not just fine but great. Our family has had 3 baby boys born this year, all perfect and beautiful. I am so very blessed! I will be making a trip to Portland this week to meet my newest grandson. I think it's a bond that must be made at this time and is the sweetest of all. Obviously I'll have to invest in a baby car seat now. It just saddens me that one child is in Kansas, one in North Carolina and one in Portland! Their visits are rare. It's a good thing I'm young enough to travel, isn't it!



Henry



Emmett

Hogar Resa Celebrates 7 Years of Ministry in Drug Treatment

Carmelo Ruiz and his wife, Maria, along with his brother, Pastor Edward Lebron, their families and Willie and myself celebrated Hogar Resa's 7 years in existence on January 13, with approximately 70 men of their program at Homers Restaurant. Hogar Resa recently devoted the second floor of their Avon Park facility to housing for staff of the program adding a number of new beds to their facility. They continue to operate a Wau-chula facility and Grace Place at Sebring. The student body is very varied including Russian, white, Hispanic, black, any nationality actually. Carmelo reminisced when they started with nothing collecting on street corners, putting the money in the middle of the bed and using it to buy food, etc. for the program. They moved on to baking and selling pastry in different cities to fund their operations. Now, housing and feeding 70 men is no small thing! Yet they lavish love and understanding and patience on these men. Pray for this ministry!

Dear Partners,

The New Year has come and gone and we are so excited for all the new opportunities this year. As you can see by our schedule, Little Lambs will sponsor meetings four nights a week. Included in that is our Monday meetings with the men at Hogar Resa. Willie and I are taking them through our Biblical Boundaries Class. Willie will also host a meeting with Hogar on Thursday morning. Our Avon Park Prison class is in session with approximately 30 inmates attending. Overcomers continues at Avon Park Prison on Tuesday as well. On Wednesday, February 3, we will start our Anger Management Class in Sebring. And lastly, Mary Tinberg will start her Codependent Recovery class for Women on Thursday night, Feb. 4th at 6 pm. These are important meetings not just for prison but for our community as well. I might add that Mr. Willie Hubbell is also available for counseling for addiction. He has lots of years of experience in all

<p>FEBURARY 2016</p> <p>Mon... Avon Park Prison Bible Study</p> <p>Mon... Overcomers with Hogar Resa</p> <p>Tue... Overcomers Avon Park Prison</p> <p>Tue... Marriage & Family/Biblical Boundaries Avon Park Prison</p> <p>Wed... Anger Management/Biblical Boundaries First Presbyterian Church @ 7 pm</p> <p>Wed... Overcomers Bible Fellowship Church @ 6 pm</p> <p>Thurs... Biblical Boundaries/Hogar Resa</p> <p>Thurs.. Women's Copedendent Recovery @ Little Lambs 6:30 pm</p> <p>Counseling by Appointment 863-273-7388</p>	<p>types of addiction and has joyfully allowed me to refer men to his care. We continue to host the Overcomers meeting at Bible Fellowship Church on Wednesdays led by Jeff. Richard and Steve. They have a great group. All of this means we impact almost 70 individuals for Christ a week!</p> <p>I want to thank everyone who has expressed concern for me. God answers prayer. My house has been sealed inside and out, painted etc. and the dust contamination has been removed! Alleluia!. I have also found that my voice continues to heal without any dairy and wheat. Another praise. I feel just great. Ready to go another 50 years!</p> <p>My sincere thanks to all of you, my donors and volunteers! You have kept us able to not only continue but to expand. Know that we sincerely appreciate you and your generosity. God bless you in all you do and prosper you spiritually in 2016 like never before!</p> <p>Much love, Eileen Sala</p>
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