



Little Lambs Inc

A John & Eileen Sala Prison Ministry
<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>

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AUGUST 2018

OUR GOD IS IN THE MIRACLE WORKING BUSINESS!

Last week I was impressed to memorize Eph 2:4-10: *But God, who is **rich in mercy**, for the **great love** wherewith he loved us; even when we were dead in sins, has he quickened us **together** in Christ (by grace you are saved); and has raised us up **together**, and he has caused us to sit **together** in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come he might show the **exceeding riches of his grace** in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus! For it is by grace we are saved through faith; and that **not of yourselves**; it is the **gift of God**; not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are **his workmanship** created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God has **before ordained** that we should walk in them.*

And yes, I did memorize it that week. Then suddenly, on Tuesday, a young man appeared at our door. He came in, looked at me and said, "Who am I?" At the front desk, I stared, something was familiar, but it was his voice that gave him away as he said, "No, I'm not gonna say, guess." God was showing me these verses, fresh on my mind, in the flesh! It was Tommy, the terror of Highlands County 10 years ago. He came through our classes with huge addiction and personal issues, horrible childhood, in and out of jail, even to prison. The last time I thought about Tommy, I saw on the internet he was serving another 5 years in prison.

And here he was in the flesh with a testimony of God's **rich mercy and great love wherewith he love us!** He told of being arrested in St. Petersburg the last time in 2011, going before a judge who told him that this time, they would bury him with his record. It was not Highlands County anymore. Tommy, facing life, was a broken man before God. Then before his case came to court, God started working by having the judge retire! Of course, I believe God started with the arrest as the only way to stop Tommy. With the judge retired, miraculously, he was given, through an attorney pool, a private defense lawyer **at no cost to him.**

Another miracle is this lawyer fought for Tommy and his sentence was brought down to 5 years in prison! Halleluliah. Another miracle, his recovery sponsor picked him up from prison on release and brought him to St. Pete Beach for 2 years to recover, going to meetings 3 or 4 times a week and working with his mentor. More miracles, he has his right mind and his old job back with a construction company in Lake Placid, owns his own home now in Pinellas Park and his own truck. He cannot tell his story without tears often falling. He just had to stop by as he was going to pull a building permit at the county office, he said. Now 7 and a half years sober, he can't stop talking about God's great love and mercy.

We were all transfixed as we watched another miracle of God in our midst. After lots of hugs, Tom tells of repaying all the people he owed, and giving back as he and his employer are providing housing and a program for drug addicts and alcoholics. This is the 12th Step, giving back: "*Having had a **spiritual awakening as the result of these steps**, we try to carry this message to alcoholics and drug addicts, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.*" Now that our joy is filled, we turn to action. We here at Little Lambs are do all our work by faith, never really knowing results. However, we only plant the seed, God waters causes it to grow. This is how it works in every lesson we send to prison and jail. We don't know their hearts, but we do it by faith. And **you** give by faith. You bless this ministry to continue to do this by faith. When someone, like Tommy, comes in and God demonstrates what he does with that seed, we rejoice. This is the second inmate to pop in this month and encourage us to keep doing what we do. I want to encourage you in your giving, only when we arrive in heaven will we know the impact of what we've done. God bless you.

Well, Ms. Sala, what did I learn in the Anger Management, children and family class. Basically I'm just going to start writing even though I know I've learned so much more. I'ma start off with my health, things to eat, exercise, taking care of my body and I've changed so much. It was really good hearing so much information. Boundaries and not just boundaries in one part of your life. Boundaries in all aspects, first with myself, how to say no, NO!! That's one of the most important things, setting rules in my own head, my own life. Boundaries with others, friends, knowing that there is a limit and if they're not good, get rid of them. Doing what's best for me cause if I can't take care of myself, how could I ever even begin to think about anyone else. Boundaries with my wife or girlfriend. I should say not just with myself but her as well and how to tell her NO!! And if it's wrong, don't do it or put up with it. My kids boundaries with being a parent and a friend with them with everything not just bedtimes, but all areas to cleaning up after yourself, calling names, grades in school, what to eat, homework, time to be home. Boundaries in life, there are boundaries for everything, limits all types of abuse, it can be abusive all different ways: not spending the right amount to time with your spouse, talking to them letting them know what you're doing, not just physical abuse. Mental abuse can be just as bad and not just with my wife, my kids as well. At work, put boundaries on how people treat you and if they cross the line, it can be abuse. It is abuse to try to tell someone how to feel that's crazy if I feel someway and they tell me I shouldn't feel that way, I can feel however I want.

Drugs are horrible. They are so bad. They have took also much from my life already I don't even know where to start. So many people are sick and at the same time you can't help someone that don't want to be helped. You just can't. That's where the boundaries come in. You have to draw a line and so NO period. That's just the way it is. I can go on and on about the drugs killing good people everyday.

Detachment, that is so very important if you have to let them go, get away, say No and run. Something that really hit me hard, in mean it stuck in my head, is about being a responder, not a reactor. That's very important how to handle situations. You set your boundaries, handle the situation, detach if you need to draw a line and say NO. I've already changed my life in so many ways. I give all the credit to Jesus Christ. Without him I am nothing. Jesus saved my life and I got a lot of life left in me. Thank you for your class. I really enjoyed it and will be glad to see you again in the next class.

My Little Piece of Swiss Cheese

In every program I've taken while in prison, I always hope to learn at least one thing about myself that can help me become a better man. However, due to the overwhelming challenge it is for me to concentrate and pay attention, I don't always accomplish this. I believe it would be less of a challenge to climb Mt. Everest in nothing but a pair of shorts while nibbling on a frozen granola bar. It's not that I don't try- I try very hard to focus- but the 23 yr. Cocktail of drugs, alcohol, and stupidity have whittled down my once fertile mind into a piece of Swiss cheese the size of an acorn. I'm just not that sharp anymore. If you could open my head and look inside, you would no doubt see a carousel of thoughts, mostly about my x-wife and 3 kids - spinning out of control. I gave up looking for the lever a long time ago.

But despite all of that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, you managed to teach me something and for that I commend you. So let's talk about what I learned.

On a dark and stormy night, many full moons ago, you showed us a video about the effects drugs and alcohol have on your brain. At that time I was drinking 9 cups of coffee a day-nine! And after I learned what excessive caffeine can do to my brain, I was scared into dropping my consumption to no more than 3 cups a day. I give you credit, not the video, for helping me prevent any further damage to my little piece of Swiss cheese and for helping me save money too.

Fact: Nine years ago, on the day I was arrested, I gave my life to Jesus, and on that day I began a new life. Before then, I was a chronic abuser of my family and myself, a user of multiple drugs, a two-pack-a-day smoker, and a thirsty alcoholic. There are many other habits and traits I possessed, and I'm thankfully not proud of any of them. But I am thankful that Jesus delivered me from them all.

I've been washed clean ever since, washed as clean as a virgin's robe soaking in a pool of pure bleach, and I have no desire to do any of those things ever again. That's the power of Jesus. He tells us to "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord." I took a bit, and I'm still chewing.

Thank you for sacrificing your time for us. We are so blessed that God is using you to further His kingdom. God bless you.

Dear John & Eileen

Hello my name is Timothy. I'm 51 yrs. old and I'm here in the DOC in Hobbs, NM. I have been given a sentence of 20 years for some stolen TV's and possession of some other stolen goods. I made a mistake and bought stolen items and was arrested and sentenced for receiving and transferring.

At first I felt like I had been given a super excessive penalty for my crimes, I look all around me and I see people in here doing less time for murder. But now I come to realize that I am not here for the things I have done. I am in here for the things God the Father is doing for me.

I know now that I am here to understand that Jesus came to earth to die for my salvation. What is half of 20 years which is 10 behind bars if I gained my salvation through this sentence.

While I was on the streets I had turned away from God and my Lord Jesus Christ. I had fallen back into the world of sin. I was using drugs again. I have lost my job. I was going to Casinos chasing women everything I knew already that was not my calling as a born again Christian. I know that God must love me because he had me incarcerated again to bring me back to him. Now I am back with God and Jesus my Lord and Savior. It is like a great weight lifted off of my shoulders. I was suffering and trapped in my own prison of sin., even though I was free. Not that I find my self in prison I am free of the slavery of sin.

I have chosen to enter the Seminary Program here in Lea County CF. There were only 30 slots available in the ministry program and I was one of the 30 selected. Thank you, Jesus. I have been blessed because I barely put in for the program this year and I made it. There have been many men waiting years to get in. I believe God has a plan for me.

I was very impressed with your first series and I want to continue but I need help with stamps.

I thank you and I thank God that he put it in your hearts to help us that are in prison across America. It means much to us to have that correspondence and help understanding the Word of God. I will pray for you and the ministry.

Inmate Mail



Dear Little Lambs Inc.

I am writing to convey my heartfelt thanks for the time I spent with your ministry through biblical studies. I have to admit that I learned some very interesting things that I've never before seen in the Word of God. Your course is intelligent and every lesson brings new understanding and provides purpose and meaning for life. I cannot thank you enough for exposing me to the truth that I've been searching for.

Moreover, thank you ever so much for the Nelson KJV Open Bible. It is very rich in information. Early April when you notified me about sending me the bible, I immediately asked the chaplain if I can receive the bible. He agreed and even prepared some paperwork in my presence and sent it to the mailroom so that the bible can be delivered to me upon arrival.

When the bible arrived on May 17, a notice was given to me at the Sergeant's office with the Superintendent and the mailroom Boss Lady printed names and signatures. The notice said, my bible is rejected and states no reason why it was rejected but gives me two options: 1. Choose to write down any address where the bible should be sent on my expense. 2. Choose to have the bible destroyed.

I was very shocked upon reading the second option because it said "to destroy" God's WORD. Well, I told the sergeant that I will not choose any of the two options because the Chaplain did approve of my bible early April. Therefore he should contact the Chaplain. But within 48 hours if there is no judgment on the Bible, the mailroom will send it back to where it came from. I left the sergeant and started to pray about the bible.

Four days I did not get any response from anyone so I wrote a grievance on the 22 of May. I explain how the Chaplain already approved my receivership of the bible but the administration rejected it. In conclusion my grievance I said: "It is very, very sad, disgusting, sick for the administration of Avery Mitchell CI to warmly welcome or accept naked and half naked women pictures and magazines as well as some worldly materials but reject and threaten to destroy God's Word—The Holy Bible.

My grievance was sent May 22 and the next day I received my Bible—Glory to God. I'm so happy and thankful to God for the bible.

I am deeply touched by the genuine care and concern by your ministry and I'm very much pleased with the services provided. With God's help, I will continue to follow what you taught me through the years. You are in my prayers. Warmest regards to the ENTIRE FAMILY OF LITTLE LAMBS INC. May the Lord continue to shower His blessings upon you as you continue to fulfill the Great Commission. In Christ's love, Moses, NC

With a name like Moses and his holy boldness, we believe he will do well in his new life. Thank you for making it possible. Amen

Dear Partners,

As I begin a new session at the prison, I was very encouraged when two ex-inmates stopped by and gave us their thanks and appreciation and evidence of changed lives. Here is Tommy from page one, excited about serving God now.



We started classes at the prison and have a total of about 70 inmates. This is a new high number. All of them seem eager to learn and for many it will have their first introduction to the bible and what it really says. Usually, this is surprising to many who think the bible is outdated old useless stuff. Here they will learn about the true majesty of God and his plan to keep them safe and happy. They will learn God's plan for marriages and families. When asked, almost all raised their hands as knowing the Lord. Yet, a real lack of biblical knowledge is evident, and it is my pleasure to correct that!! Since I am traveling to see grandchildren this month, taking time off, I will be doing twice weekly classes at the Work Camp after I return. These men are close to exit prison and would greatly benefit to complete the course before that and Chaplain has found a slot for us in the afternoon.

We have also approached the prison administration about perhaps helping supply exit clothing for men. There seems to be lots of problems for some inmates without families in having decent clothing when they are released. The classification department will be contacting us with more information and we can come up with a plan to help. It would truly be a blessing to start a new life dressed in a presentable manner.

We are also accepting enrollment for our upcoming boundary class to be held in August. Again, we will be doing a three day seminar type class of 12 hours total. This has been very successful with all students completing the entire course and getting their certificates. Here is the last class who completed the course along with a female who was not available to take the picture. It just seems too hard for someone who depends on others for transportation and have little funds to do a whole 10 weeks of class. They would often fail to complete it and re-offend. A three day course solves this problem. The course will satisfy the courts requirement for anger management,



DCF requirement for parenting class, and is accepted as premarital counseling for state marriage requirement. It is also the course I ask couples to attend as part of marriage counseling. Class will begin at 10 am, break for lunch, and continue until 3 pm each day and testing the final day. Class will be August 24, 25, 26, 2018 at Little Lambs. The course is free unless court ordered.

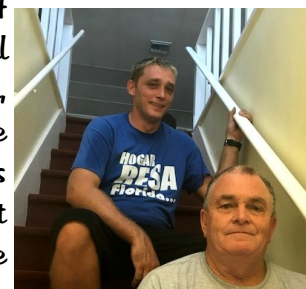
Schedule AUGUST 2018

- Mon...Avon Park Prison Bible Study**
- Tue...Marriage & Family/Biblical Boundaries Avon Park Prison**
- Wed... Overcomers Bible Fellowship Church @ 6 pm**
- Thurs..Released to Love, Women Codependent recovery @ 6:30 pm@ Little Lambs Inc**
- Thurs...Marriage & Family/Biblical Boundaries Avon Park Prison**

Counseling by Appointment
863-273-7388

**ANGER MANAGEMENT CLASS
AUG 24, 25, 26, 2018
CALL TO ENROLL**

We are indebted to the ministry team of Bible Fellowship Church who helped us with wall repair after serious water leaks. Also, this week, Hogar Resa residents, Keith and William, came over and put up a new handrail for our upstairs meeting room. Our ladies weekly Codependent Recovery meeting uses the upstairs at Little Lambs as well as our Anger Management classes.



Thank you for supporting Little Lambs. It has been a very slow summer financially but very good spiritually! PTL.

Much love,
Eileen Sala

Ps. Hogar Resa needs a lawnmower. Can anyone help?