



Little Lambs Inc.

John & Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>

We are blessed and Thank God for it!

PO Box 504 @ 710 S. Eucalyptus St. Sebring, FL 33871-0504 863-273-6075 November 2021

The Saga of a Little Lambs Bookmark.... Inmate Thanks this Season

Dear Friend in Christ..

Enclosed is a bookmark with your name and address stamped on the back. I'm not sure how it came to be in my hand, but I have used it to mark my place in my bible for many months. Every time I look at it, I tell myself that I should write to "Little Lambs" and tell them that somehow their bookmark from Florida came into my hands here in a prison in New Hampshire. We never know how many lives we will touch when we do what the Lord tells us. We never know who he will bless through our good work. I wanted you to know that your hands have blessed me in no small way, because many times when I was close to giving up – I saw the bookmark that you stamped and I remembered that there were people outside that care. The message on the bookmark says "God bless you!" And God has blessed me – a sinner – a terrible man. I have done many bad things – things which I cannot speak of without crying. But this small gift with it's simple message has brought me a comfort in time of distress and great soul searching. "God bless you!", it says. Even me a prisoner and a man of low character? It has taught me to ask this question many times. The answer always comes back to me, "yes".

I have used your bookmark to mark the pages of my bible until I wore my bible out and then I used it on another. I marked the story of Abraham and Moses. It set in place while I slowly read over and over Psalm 51. It marked my way through judges and the courage of men like Gideon. I opened my bible to the place where Ruth lay at Boaz' feet – where David killed Goliath – where Job pondered his relationship with God – And Jesus - and Peter – and Paul. The list goes on and on, but I won't. sometimes I get carried away.

I started out to just say thank you because you cared enough to give me something that has helped me , but now I think I've gone on long enough. I've been locked up for three and a half years. I have 14 more to go. With God's help maybe not that much.

I'm trying to say that in here kindness is not always something that a person can understand without question. When it comes without price, without consequence – even a small thing – a flag is raised in your head that says, "Look out". Sadly this is true.

But your little bookmark asked for nothing. Your stamped address only raised the question in my mind of 'who are these people?' The message does not ask for anything but rather gives. "God bless you!" What a wonderful gift. I thank you for your time, your prayer, your devotion to God. So – if you wanted to know if your bookmarks got used than the answer is yes. If you wanted to know if your bookmarks really did bless people, the answer is still yes. If you wanted to know if what you do makes a difference, the answer is very much yes. I'll close this letter by asking you to please return the bookmark to me. I've grown attached to it! I often wondered who John and Eileen Sala were. God knows. I think I know too. May God bless you both. May He bless your ministry and your home. May He bless your work and may His Joy and Love fill your lives with Happiness and long life. Al from Berlin

Jeremy writes: I'm writing to first tell you that I did receive the bible you sent and I thank you very much for it. You guys have been more than just a bible study all this time. You have helped me in so many ways. For one, you were a comfort. In my darkest hours, in the deep valley of my life, you and God have been there to lift me up. Also you have helped me to stay focused and preoccupied with my time, otherwise I would have gone insane! And also the Cards with the Lambs on them, with my name on them, deeply touched me. Believe it or not, those little cares gave me a sense of worth, to let me know that I am still cared for and loved. All of my gratitude and thanks to you. I love you guys with all my heart. Jeremy



Marriage & Family Class The one thing I learned the most about this class, is that it is very important to have boundaries established in any relationship as well as boundaries established with your kids. In order for any relationship to succeed there needs to be boundaries and trust between the whole family. You must have a coexistence with GOD in your relationships or it will fail as well. I have learned that dealing with my current relationship to my fiancé, that I have to set more boundaries for me and be more understanding to our needs. Furthermore I also have to get more involved with my step-daughter's day-to-day life and be there for her more.

I have also learned that my lack of physical presence with them is not a hindrance as it is more of a nuisance. I have also come to realize that if you are a codependent then your relationship has failed before it has even begun. Therefore I am striving to not only place myself in the relationship more but be more active with the day-to-day goings on in their lives. I really do appreciate the opportunity I have had with this class and I look forward to a very prosperous relationship and life with my soon to be wife. *Isn't it wonderful what a great influence God has when He is presented as a family man Himself. How people better relate it to themselves. Now he can love his family more with the love of God!*

Hey, Little Lambs, You know, it's always good to hear from you. I remember writing you way back requesting to become a student. Back then I had a feeling of being empty and being like I'm all alone. I had a gut feeling that I needed to get in The Word. I was needing and looking for guidance. I was soooooo Happy when I was enrolled. I feel that I have come a long way in The Word, but for sue I don't know everything. It was a joy to hear from you and your lessons are away the highlight of my day. The Lord blesses my heart and helps my mind to comprehend His Word through your teaching. I cherish the Word. May God continue to bless you till He returns. Meanwhile, I'll be listening. You all are greatly love and appreciated.

PS. When the child of God looks into the Word of God and sees the Son of God he is changed by the Spirit of God into the image of God for the glory of God!

Dear John & Eileen , Back in April I got the first Covid 19 shot and within a week I started to get sick and coughing a lot; by the 30th, it was getting worse so I went to medial and they took blood and I was held for 23 hours and sent back to the dorm. I was hoping that once I got the second shot I would feel better but it kept getting worse so on the 18th of May I went back to Medial and they took blood again and sent me back to the dorm and on the 20th they called for me up to Medical and they were in a panic because hey had lost the blood results from April 30th but found them and when they compared them there was a drastic change so I was rushed to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital. They

did CAT scans and MRI's and said that I had pneumonia and my lungs had sores all over them. I was in the hospital 8 days give IV antibiotics. I was sent back to the prison infirmary for IV antibiotics for 7 more weeks. That is where I met Eric S. He has been very kind to me throughout this ordeal.

After those 7 weeks, back in the dorm, I started getting bad diarrhea which was diagnosed as "C-Diff" and put on more antibiotics and isolated alone in a room for 2 more weeks. During this time Eric, who we call "E" continued to be kind and helpful to not only me but everyone else. So after the 2 weeks was up I was sent back to the dorm and within 2 or so weeks the C-Diff had returned with a vengeance and I have been in isolation for 6 weeks until today when I was sent to an outside specialist who put me on an new antibiotics and probiotics! When I saw the Enrollment Form you sent to give to a Friend, I knew that I had to give it to Eric because you can see Jesus in the way that Eric conducts himself. We are not all bad people in this place. We have made mistakes and are paying the price but the Lord has forgiven me because I have poured my heart out to Him. Thank you for the lessons that you send. I pray that you guys are healthy and safe. *Sometimes you wonder about the designs of God, but He has the master plan that put these two men together to be able to share their faith. We now include an 'enrollment form' with the words 'to give to a friend' in all the mail that has space after weighing. The response has been tremendous! And Miraculous!*

Family & Marriage Class Essay... Abuser can be classified in different forms. We have the verbal abuser and the physical abuser. I've learned a lot in this semester much of which I will be using in everyday life. I've learned about addiction. I've learned that addiction can be substituted in degrees by sex, drugs, lying and many many more! I saw what do-dependency can do. It can destroy what one builds. Codependency is when the significant other becomes overly dependent on the other who may be negatively dangerous! I also learned about hidden anger. Hidden anger comes from a deceiver or an abuser. I also learned about a violator. A violator is an individual who doesn't respect the other's boundaries, without regard of the other's feelings. I also learned that a child is the most essential part of the household because it's born with an empty tank and it takes the household to fill it up! I also learned about a dysfunctional household. I come from one. I witnessed my mother struggle with her addiction that affected my and my sisters and brothers. I struggled all my life to shake the codependency that affects my life so much. I was a victim of neglect, abuse, hidden anger and much more! I was abandon so I understood abandonment. I struggled for a long time trying to understand why things happened. I never understood why. Now I know I broke the cycle!

What I learned...I guess for me, the biggest thing I learned is that I am not alone. Millions of people grew up in dysfunctional families just like I did and have learned the same negative character traits that I did. In a way, this is a blessing because we now have a road map back to sanity through educating ourselves in classes like this one we can learn how to identify and break these generational curses!...The second thing I learned is that we pick up these ideas and beliefs from our parents and environment without even realizing we have. Then we pass them on down to our children again without even realizing we have done so!... In closing, it pains me to see how true it is that "Hurt people, hurt people." sadly I grew up to pass on to my children the same hurt I suffered as a child! May God help me be better!

Sexual Holiness Essay: What do you struggle with? The battles I struggled with for the last 25 years, is all kinds of drugs, alcohol, and sex with lots of different women. No respect for the Holy things of Go: fleshly lusts, a multitude of idols! Money, sex, TV, gambling! Body image. I lived like I wanted to and still asked for God's blessing. I was very selfish and I hate to say it but I always knew God would forgive me. But I forgot about the chastisement part that comes with His love for me. ok

Dear Eileen, Hello! Let me start by introducing myself. My name is Michele. I'm currently in Yolo County Jail, Ca. My fiancé is in Sacramento County jail and he sent me your information. (He's in our lessons.)

He and I have had a rough start like most people who are on drugs. I don't look at this time apart as a bad thing. I think of it as God's way of saving us! Not only from each other, but the drugs. In order for us to move forward we first need to build a relationship with God. He told me in his letter that he found your info in a book "The John Sala Story." He said it's a good book and I should ask you to send it to me if you could and also see if you could put me in the study course too. Thank you in advance. Michele

Dear Brother and Sister Salas.

I am excited to let you know that I have in my hand a beautiful leather Open Bible, Study Bible NKJV. "OMG" It's beautiful, thank you so much!

Jesus I is with me. I am enjoying the tracts you are sending me. Any Christian literature you have and want to send me is very welcome. We have a Faith-Based Pod. We will benefit from them, Spanish and English is welcome. I pray the Lord releases me soon so I can contact your ministry and help in any way possible. My wife and I will serve the Lord. I will stay in contact, I promise. Eloy

PS I have shared all the good news with my faith based brothers-in-white and also encouraging them to enroll in "Little Lambs". You will hear from them soon. I will keep in touch and please keep me up-to-date. Please let me know if you speak Spanish since my wife only speaks Spanish and would like for her to call you and also thank you personally. She's proud of all of us. Thank you. *We did write to Eloy.*



Mike



Bonnie



Roger

Dear Partners,

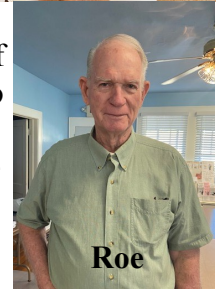
November 3, 2020, we are going to say to our Wednesday volunteer, Mike Young. Mike has been with us through thick and thin for maybe 5 years now. He and his wife Patsy started with us, then she became ill and had to take care of herself, but Mike was able to stay with us. Following our sudden loss of our 'mail man', Bill Clemens in 2018, Mike took over that job and also helped us with some of the printing. Mike and Patsy are moving to Pensacola near her children and it all happened so quick because real estate moves so fast right now. We will miss Mike and his very dry humor! Of course, all of us have to learn and do all jobs so we all rotate now. As you know, people living in Florida often leave in summer or holidays to visit family up north. We all have to cover for each other.

In August, our long time (18 years) volunteer, Bonnie Clemens, had a knee replacement and had to move home to her children. Bonnie knew our systems so well and was so faithful, only missing days when they went up north until she was 86 years old! Then several months ago, Roger Giegerich was sidelined with illness and had to step away. Roger also was a 'mail man,' taking all our books, bibles, and lessons to the post office with the correct postage for us. We had a well oiled machine on Wednesdays then suddenly it has all changed!

During the summer, when Roger has to leave, we welcomed Mary Tinberg to Wednesdays, a big help. Mary has been with us teaching the women and grading and in the office on Fridays for many years now. Today we welcomed Hap Stephenson and Roe McAdams to our crew as replacements as well. Roe has been grading for us for a few years and Hap has served on our Board of Directors for about 8 years. Both of these wonderful men are from Bible Fellowship Church which has a heart for prisoners. They are also a part of the Abide group and go into the prison at Avon Park every month. They have begun their training in all the intricacies of



Hap



Roe

our program, and it is intricate with all the different prisons and jail standards to must meet.

Our census has began going up again after a drop in the pandemic. New enrollment is climbing again and returns are good. We realized that during the pandemic a large number of inmates all over the country were given compassionate or early release to relieve the crowding and risk in the prison and jails. That let a lot of our students out early and reduced our numbers. It is so hard reorienting to society, getting a job, a place to stay, a vehicle, taking care of the family and paying fees, that a newly released inmate seldom continues. Yet we might hear from them a few years later, and restart them in the lessons. In most states, they are done with early or compassionate release and sentences are no longer shortened so our inmates can study longer. There is always a blessing hidden the things that happen. So we are up an running now, almost all digital and full staffed. My only thought is Thank God for Senior Power!!!

Ps 92:14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;

Isa 46:4 And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.

Ps 71:18 Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; **until I have shown thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come. Amen!!**

This is Little Lambs!

Thank you for blessing us and praying for us and for our lambs! We all pray that every one of you has a Glorious Thanksgiving with the Lord. Your servant, Eileen

Schedule November 2021
Mon....Biblical Boundaries Marriage & Family with 2nd Chance Ministry
Tues....Biblical Marriage Family & Parenting @ Avon Park Prison
Tues....Purpose Driven Life @ 2nd Chance Ministry
Thurs....Celebrate Recovery @ 2nd Chance Ministry
Counseling by Appointment
863-273-6075