



Little Lambs Inc.

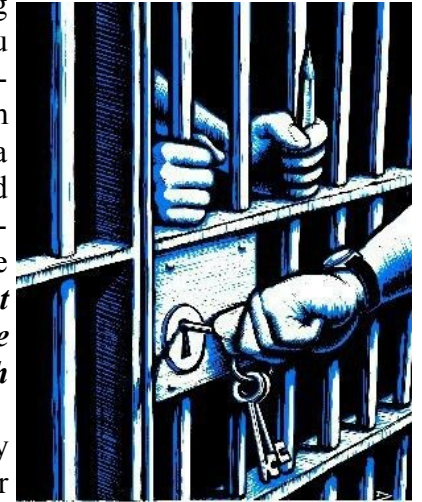
John & Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>

PO Box 504 @ 710 S. Eucalyptus St. Sebring, FL 33871-0504 863-273-6075 September 2022

A Living Witness

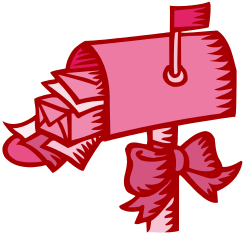
Every month we keep all the interesting and moving letters to share with you. At the end of the month, I go through them and select what we will share. It seems that we are getting more letters. This as I read the letter on the next page, my spirit soared. As you can guess the prison system in Wisconsin is not sunny Florida. It is a hard system. The letter writer is in a 'super max' prison, meaning the most maximum security, a harsh place reserved for violent criminals. You are placed alone in a cell 23 hours a day with nothing to take your mind off your sins and regrets and with very dangerous criminals. The writer tells us that there are frequent suicides and attempted suicides. Men destroying themselves rather than face life as it is. Hopeless as Ephesians says? *That at that time they were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world. Eph 2:12*



Yet, at some time before this man came in this cell, it was occupied by another inmate. An inmate who had found hope and a future in Christ no matter the situation. This man was enrolled in the Little Lambs School of the Bible. Knowing the torment of these places, this man decided to help his fellow man find God as he had. So he simply wrote on the wall of the cell, **“Write to this address if you ever need help from someone.”** Then he included the address for Little Lambs Inc. We don't know how many men came to that cell before our friend. We don't know how many were saved because of this one man's faith, but what we do know is that this man, unsure of himself, unsure of us, unsure of the writer of the message on the wall, confused, alone, pondered at least a month about what to do. Finally he gave in and used his last envelope to write to that address. Now he has become a Little Lamb! *But now in Christ Jesus you who sometimes were far off re made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who has bade both one, and has broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; and that He might reconcile both to God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby. Eph 2:13-16*

I often say that it doesn't matter how long a student is with us, each and every contact is important to the Lord. Every word that leaves this building is on a mission to testify of Jesus and his love for us! Every student has a mission to spread this hope to others. This is happening quietly throughout the prison and jail systems. So think about that man who occupied that cell. He left a living witness, and undying witness to the lost that will follow him. Pray for him and for everyone who enters that cell. They all need to learn about a loving Savior.

At the same time I am greatly humbled to be used in such a way by our loving Savior. That He would trust us to reach the lost in this way. Few people know what we do, in fact we are a well kept secret! Except for the Post Office! We had a letter come all the way from a California prison without our address but it was a student writing us to enroll and the Post Office delivered that letter us, all the way from California unaddressed. Halleluia! Our God reigns! Please pray for these folks.



When I first heard of Little Lambs Family and Marriage Course I immediately thought; no, this class is not for me, considering 1) I have never been married, 2) I have no children, 3) I am not committed in a relationship. Never the less, taking a leap of faith, I attended one class but one time was not good enough, I needed a refill on some knowledge that needs to be more than heard, it needs to be digested. What I have learned from this class has changed my life. It changed the way that I look at the past and changed the way I look at the future. Although both of my parents are deceased, the bread that I received from Ms. Sala has taught me the importance of starting a relationship on a healthy ground so that once seeds are planted they would have healthy soil to grow and bloom in.

One more thing I want to add, after the very first group session I left with the source of every problem in relationships. Reflecting back on what I got from the class it has made me a better man in addition to being a better brother, uncle and friend. I have planted the seeds learned from Ms. Sala into my immediate family. It has also enabled me to have something positive to talk about and something encouraging at the same time, something that my nieces and nephews will listen to and something that my siblings can relate to because not only is it real, it's true. This class has also equipped me with the approach to address any adolescent by giving the age appropriate approaches to reach out if I am in a position to help someone in need.

This class has also taught me how to identify dysfunction and when I identify dysfunction, I am able to address that dysfunction with advice that would make the family work towards being a functional family. More than anything, when I have the chance to be a father :) I would make sure that I have a relationship where both of our foundations are on God, so that we both could start a relationship with full tanks because our tanks would remain full because they would be based on the fullness of God's love. If a family materializes from the relationship/covenant, the children would be born with full tanks so that they would have the benefit of being kids without having any adult burdens. Last but not least, it has taught me the importance of boundaries in life, relationship and friendships. What was so surprising about boundaries were I never had a choice but after being enlightened I now know that children have a right to set their boundaries and should have the freedom to say things like: no, I choose not to, I don't like it when you do _____, I think that is wrong, etc.

First I want to say that since I've received Christ and studying God's Word I have a desire to have a marriage established with the principles of God. If I want God to bless my marriage than I must do things His way.

Now, what I've learned from your class? I felt I was ready for marriage until I took your class. You've opened my mind and heart to some very important issues like learning what a dysfunctional and functional family looks like. How to detach and set boundaries, verbal abuse, addictive cycle, core beliefs, codependents..... Etc.

I now understand that the wrong information wounded me and gave me a false core belief. But getting under the truth of God's word I am able to view things with the right information that your class has provided. This gave me a positive core belief. God must be the center of all of me and all I have. You've helped me to understand the role I play as a father is important to my children and grandchildren. I can now make healthy and correct changes for a recovery to my spiritual and physical life concerning love, sex, marriage, family, God, work....etc. As long as I keep God's love first than my life in Him is endless. Love is endless!

Your video on sugar has changed my eating habits. I do my best with what I have and what is offered to me. You've also helped me recognize those patterns that held me hostage. When I know what the enemy is doing I am able to defeat his strongholds.

There's so much more I could write concerning your class that really got my attention. All this information has strengthened my heart to love and not be afraid. Love will heal what hurt divides.

Anyway, it's been a blessing to take you class. You have given me a life that can please God and be a light to those around me. May you continue as long as God allows you to teach.

I learned in this class that I came from a dysfunctional family...
That I accepted behaviors from my family that were not beneficial for me or anyone else...
I learned that my tank was empty before I came to the knowledge and acceptance of Jesus as Lord and Savior...



I learned that most of my ways of thinking and dealing with my feelings were not the way I should be dealing with them, that I had to align my life and thinking according to God's Word. I had to become a new creature in Christ.

That I had to cast down all imaginations that were contrary to the Word of God.

I learned first that I had to become honest with myself first and take responsibility for my own actions...

I learned that I had to look at my entire life from far back into my childhood till now...

I learned that I was acting out in certain ways to cover up the pain that was built up inside for many years...

That my past was dictating my future...

As much as I tried to be successful in the past I would always self destruct...My path or cycle would always be work hard to get on my feet, put money in the bank, then I would start slipping because all that never satisfied the inner need... I always wanted more and drugs and alcohol was the medication that I used to feel ok...But it always made things worse....

I learned in this class that the only thing I can change is me... with much studying in God's Word and understanding my behaviors and where they originated from, I can replace these false belief systems with truth.

God's Truth: I am somebody! I can love instead of hate. I can care instead of be selfish and always thinking about myself only... I learned that my boundaries were not up to par. Because of low self esteem I would give in to others to feel accepted... One of the major reasons I started doing drugs and drinking alcohol at a very young age...I learned that I needed to set boundaries in my life and to stick to them... Be able to say "NO"... When we seek the approval of God and not man our values change. I learned that when I align my boundaries under the rule to love God and your neighbor as yourself...that you will not do things to harm others or yourself. Because you want to please God you stay within the boundaries that He has set forth in His Word.

I have learned that I am a by-product of my own families relationships, and that I do not want to pass these dysfunctions on to my own son, which is exactly what would happen if I did not change. All in all this class has taught me that I don't know it all and I need help at times. I can make healthy choices.

Dear John & Eileen, It's me, Benjamin. How was your New Year Day? My, went AMAZING, AWESOME, WONDERFUL, GRACEFUL; for another amazing year, for good health, roof over my head, and food, place to lay my head down, blessed to be ALIVE, because of God's GRACE, that I am able to see how God's grace, how He got me this far. All tragedy I faced since 4 years old, living in the Cebu City, Philippines. How He made me strong walking in faith. I am blessed very blessed because of God's grace. When all my friends passed away and I am still alive, when God can take me away, but he chose not to, that's my testimony.

Letting you know, I got the OPEN BIBLE (KJV) STUDY. IT ARRIVED ON FRIDAY. I went to the property room and picked it up. Thank you..I love it very much. It took me a year to complete the study course all the processes and wait and be patient, but it's worth it, really, REALLY.



I really do enjoy Little Lambs School of the Bible, I love my bible. I cherish it. I promise to update how I'm going. I have 2 1/2 years left to go. Praise God. *I have tried to show you the enthusiasm of this inmate but it comes short of his emotion. He has glued little cut out animals, red hearts, lots of red ink. You can feel his excitement. Such a blessing.*

I had to let you know that I got my BIBLE. I am going to miss you so much although I know that this is not the end just the Beginning of a New Life and a New Life with God and Jesus Christ and His Holy Spirit. Thank you, Little Lambs School of the Bible for what it's done for my life and how it has changed my life for the goodness of God's plan and not mine but his plan. It's been a long road of work but I enjoyed it all and I know that God does not stop, He keeps going and going to the very end and I'm so thankful for not stopping giving up on me. I love you all with all my heart. Jerry

More Celebrations and Graduations

On August 15 we celebrated the first year of 2nd Chance Ministry at Grace Place under the leadership of Aldo Guzman. This celebration was marked by recognition of three graduating residents. These very happy residents are from the left Michael Gam-
mange from Sebring, Fl. Michael is in the last phase after graduation and continues to work with the program as he establishes himself in the community. He has plans to start his own auto detailing business here in town.

In the center is Tyrone Rattray from West Palm Beach. Tyrone has lots of experience renovating homes in West Palm. He has plans to return to his family in West Palm Beach and work on renovating boats and homes.

And on the right is Jose Lopez Rojas from Wau-
chula. Working in the office for some time, Jose has plans to stay with the ministry, helping out with new residents that come into the program.

That August 15th celebration was a gathering of fam-
ily members who had come to celebrate their children. For some, it was like seeing their child rise from the dead. They were so grateful and happy. Happy because life has always been a worry, a fear their loved one was dead. Now, knowing that they are clean, sober and growing up into mature sons, they are really blessed.

I want to especially give credit to Mr. Aldo Guzman for all this happiness. He works long and hard hours. He and his wife give unstintingly to these men. He has many years of invaluable experience working in addiction. And he is intent on passing on to the men a moral compass with God at the center. Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Aldo Guzman! It has been my joy and pleasure to work with these young men as well as the men give back to me and the ministry!



Dear Partners,

I am almost 3 weeks post-op my knee that the doctors assures me will be a year long journey to complete recovery! Such a lesson in patience. Not only my own, but for Jan Ryan who is heading up the ministry in my absence. Fortunately, all the volunteers know their jobs and continue to do them no matter who is there. All the works gets done. And a very special thank you to Mary Tinberg, who has been my friend and comfort, my taxi, my encourager, my family. It is a good thing we both have a good sense of humor and can laugh at so many things. It has been difficult staying home and not doing my usual work at the ministry office, but I know the time will come soon when I will be doing my work as usual. For this reason, our newsletter is rather late this month. Much Love, Eileen

WITH GOD NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE

There is not a situation in which God does not have an answer.

We have seen so many miracles here at Little Lambs. From God helping Eileen to run this Ministry, to healing of our volunteers, to the salvation of our students in prison who do our Bible Study, to the men at Grace Place who have turned their lives around, and on and on.

It is wonderful to volunteer and work for a ministry that serves a God of Miracles.

Don't speak to God about your problems, speak to your PROBLEM ABOUT YOUR GOD!
Ruth Esposito
Tuesday Volunteer

Schedule February 2022

Tues....Purpose Driven Life @
2nd Chance Ministry

Wed.....Biblical Boundaries Marriage
& Family with 2nd Chance Ministry

Thurs....Celebrate Recovery @
2nd Chance Ministry

Counseling by Appointment
863-273-6075