



PO Box 504 @ 710 S Eucalyptus St Sebring, FL 33871-0504 863-273-6075 August 2023

Dear Little Lambs,

The twenty-sixth chapter of the Book of Acts records a most interesting encounter between the Apostle Paul and King Agrippa (more precisely Herod Agrippa II). For the umpteenth time, Paul had been accused by the Jews of various high crimes and misdemeanors.

King Agrippa was widely regarded as an expert in the morass of Jewish laws and customs. And of course, so was Paul, dating back to his former life as a rabid Pharisee. As the chapter begins, Paul is standing at “the bar of justice” before King Agrippa and his court. In a surprising gesture of fairness, King Agrippa gives Paul the opportunity to defend himself and Paul jumps at the chance. True to form, Paul was “always ready to give an answer” for the hope in his heart (I Peter 3:15, KJV).

Showing great deference to Agrippa, Paul delivered a powerful sermon, focusing on his own personal testimony. Paul admitted to having imprisoned Christ-believers, even consenting to their deaths (Acts 26:10). Paul then recounted how his journey to Damascus had been cut short by a blinding light and a voice from heaven. Christ Jesus made himself known to Paul, and in today’s vernacular, that was a game changer.

Suddenly, Paul’s sermon was interrupted by Festus, a low-level Roman puppet. Festus accused Paul of being deranged, of having too much learning. So, Paul quickly concluded his message with a direct challenge to the King...a challenge for King Agrippa to publicly declare his own faith in Christ (Acts 26:27). But the King would not. Instead, Agrippa said to Paul:

“Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian” (Acts 26:28).

ALMOST PERSUADED??!! Almost persuaded to be a Christian? Almost persuaded to believe on the Lord Jesus? To borrow a phrase from American literature, “almost persuaded” would be among “the saddest words of tongue or pen” (J. Greenlefe Whittier).

The scripture does not record whether Agrippa ever came around. In fact, Agrippa was never heard from again. But there is much for us to learn from such a sad refrain. *We must be 100% in our commitment to Christ Jesus.* Salvation is absolutely wonderful, but it’s all in or nothing at all. Just as a woman cannot be “almost” pregnant, a king cannot be “almost” saved.

Blessings to all,
Mike Rider (Little Lamb Volunteer)



Dear Little Lambs: “O taste and see the Lord is good...His mercies endure forever.”

Thank you for allowing me to continue in your correspondence studies. I am looking forward to continuing on and finishing them. I also appreciated the book “I’m Not Coming Back.” I loaned it out and it didn’t come back! It has been a very popular read here. Also your multi-colored bookmark “God Bless You” is another popular item. I was hoping you could send several to me to distribute out. We hold a Bible study three times daily where one third to one half of the dorm (6 to 10 guys) attend. After breakfast-prayer; lunch-Old Testament; supper- New Testament. It is a real blessing to see these guys get involved and participating. Did I mention it’s bi-lingual too. Praise the Lord! Greenville, SC County Jail *We’ll send his requests and notice of our Spanish lessons!*

Dear Little Lambs, Thank you for the great Bible Study. I did enjoy doing it. It made me look forward to having something to do. Please continue spreading the gospel in prisons. We do need positive people like you. *I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me. I was in prison and you came to me.* Someday we will meet in heaven as we worship God together. Graduate Jackson Mwangi

My Thoughts on Family (Essay David A. Tx)

Most people say blood is family, family is everything. I disagree and I agree. I disagree with the world's definition of blood family being everything. Sadly for many people in this filth riddled world, that 'family' is who hurt them the most. I do agree that family bound by the blood of Jesus Christ is everything. This is family that will give you a hand up rather than use hands to knock you down. This is family that will share the Word of God with love rather than use hateful words to tear you down. This is family that will walk beside you on the path to righteousness rather than try to lead you down paths of darkness. This is family that will help as you cleanse your body, mind, heart, and soul rather than encourage indulgence of the world. This is family that will lift you up when you stumble rather than wallow in the mud with you. This is the family that will give constructive criticism rather than destructive critique. As Christian brothers and sisters we are washed in the blood of The Lamb.

My name is David, I am a terrible sinner. I was born a sinner. I will die a sinner. Thanks is given every day to my Savior Jesus Christ. With His love I can become more loving. I have badly hurt many people. I would also love to graciously thank John and Eileen Sala for blessing me with my Little Lamb Birthday on June 6, 2023, when they welcomed me to the family and I officially became a disciple in Little Lambs School of the Bible, Inc. Much Love, David

We do so many small things that really personalize our studies with the students. When volunteers sign "We love you, Little Lambs," they say they are writing 'love letters' as their assignment that day, 100 times on 100 little cards! My hat's off to all those who attend to these little details!

Dear Mrs. Sala,

I wanted to personally thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to come to Avon Park Work Camp to minister to us, the inmate population. I was just 2 weeks into our current 12-week session when it was later discovered that you would no longer be available to complete the class. I am truly sorry for any inconveniences you may have experienced to make you feel that canceling any further sessions here at the work camp were necessary. You truly made a difference! Thank you again for your kind consideration and efforts. John N. On the right is a poem that John sent with his plea.

I thanked John for his kind remarks and let him know that perhaps we can have classes again. I thanked him as the only person who has reached out to me. And I'm ok with that because Jesus message, what is done in secret He will reward openly. But I do miss the time I was able to spend with the men. I love seeing the changes in their eyes and their hearts and giving them a godly look on life. I did explain to John that we continue all the other facets of Little Lambs and sent him the first lesson if he would like to take our course. And I thank everyone who has been praying for me. I deeply appreciate that.

You Must Not Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is strange with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns;
And many a failure turns about,
When he might have won had he stuck it out.

Don't give up though the pace seems slow,
You may succeed with another blow!

Success is failure turned inside out,
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt;
And you never can tell just how close you are;
It may be near when it seems so far.

So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit;
When things seem worst, you must not quit.

Author Unknown.

Dear Partners,

Never before has it seemed so important what the Lord said in **Matthew 6:1-4 (KJV)**

¹ Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. ² Therefore when thou do thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. ³ But when thou do alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which sees in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

John's poem perfectly describes Little Lambs. I like to say we are the best kept secret in Highlands county. We, volunteers all, graders, office workers, teachers, all labor rather in secret. We have very little recognition, or esteem in man's eyes. No awards. Yet, all these men and women labor day after day in the service of God and the men and women in prison. In class here we are reading the book of Revelations and talking about worshipping God in heaven. I just can't wait to see the number of men and women we will meet who we helped get there too.

As some of you know, I have been dealing with a bad back for some months now and was hospitalized a couple of days with GI bleeding due to the Ibuprophen I was taking for the pain. In April after our first two classes Avon Park, I decided to withdraw from the prison classes until this problem was solved. I wish I could say I was healed but I am better. One of the men from the Work Camp class wrote to me a very nice letter asking me not to quit, including a poem called, "You Must Not Quit". As I read the poem, it did not convict me, but instead it reminded of all the sacrifices that our ministry volunteers give day by day, week by week, through pandemics, nameless, honorless, unrewarded in earthly terms, but extremely faithful. Partners faithful in giving. They do not quit! They labor on, in season and out of season. There is no trumpet sounding all the good deeds they are doing. We all know that the Father which sees in secret **himself** shall reward us openly!

Your Servant, Eileen Sala