



A John and Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

Little Lambs Inc.

www.littlelambsinc.org

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

When Prayer Offends People For the Right Reasons

This interesting prayer was given in Kansas at the opening session of their Senate (1996). It seems prayer still upsets some people. When minister Joe Wright as asked to open the session of the Kansas Senate, everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but this is what they heard:

Heavenly Father, we come before you today to as Your forgiveness and to seek Your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, "Woe on those who call evil good," but that's exactly what wee have done. We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values.

We confess that:

We have ridiculed the absolute truth of Your Word and called it pluralism.

We have worshipped other gods and called it multiculturalism.

We have endorsed perversion and called it an alternative lifestyle.

We have exploited the poor and called it the lottery.

We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare.

We have killed our unborn children and called it a choice.

We have shot abortionists and called it justifiable.

We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building self-esteem.

We have abused power and called it political savvy.

We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it ambition.

We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression.

We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment.

Search us, O God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Guide and bless these men and women who have been sent to direct us to the center of Your will. I ask it in the name of Your Son, the living Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The response to the prayer was immediate. A number of legislators walked out during the prayer in protest. In six short weeks, Central Christian Church, where the Rev. Wright is a pastor, logged more than 5,000 phone calls with only 47 of those calls responding negatively. Where did Pastor Wright get this courage?

In 1991 he was instrumental in organizing the 46-day Wichita Summer of Mercy where 3,000 were arrested for protesting, 25,000 came to a rally, and locals were recruited to run for office to change the abortion laws in Kansas. The results of their efforts became evident the following summer. 83% of the new Sedgewick County precinct committee members elected in the 1992 Republican primary were abortion opponents, many former arrestees! Two weeks after the election, they took over the county GOP, squeezing out abortion-rights advocates. This happened in other counties in the state. The state went from having some of the most liberal abortion laws in the country to among the most restrictive. The "Summer of Mercy" campaign had pushed abortion opponents out of the pews, into the streets than into the political arena.

Quote from Wichita Attorney John Carmichael, Democrat organizer, later Democrat State Representative, said of the protests. "I certainly recognized the possibility that if folks who were very fervent in their beliefs about pro-choice, pro-life issues could be organized, they had the potential to change the face of the Republican Party." In fact, it changed the state of Kansas with lasting Republican statesmen enacting anti-abortion legislation. *Information from www.iolaregister.com/sumer of mercy*

Dear Partners,

One of my volunteers brought in this prayer on the front cover for the newsletter. It brought me back to my roots as I was a member at Central Christian Church in Wichita from 1989 to 1992. In 1990, my 2 children and I were baptized at Pastor Joe Wright's Church in Wichita on the day Rich Mullins sang his new worship song, Awesome God. In church in 1991, I heard a classical pianist play then speak one Sunday about abortion protests downtown. Pastor Joe was very instrumental in mustering all the pastors for the abortion protests. I decided to go and see what God was doing. In one demonstration, we had 99 pastors getting arrested for anti-abortion protests. It was 46 days of protests and arrests with over 3,000 arrested and put in jail. I worked with Operation Rescue for 3 months after the protests to process and computerize the arrests. I moved out of town in 1993 to work in Baton Rouge, La., as I was sort of blacklisted from nursing jobs in Kansas with my arrest record (for abortion, many hospitals really do abortions). Fortunately, I had 4 arrests and time spent in jail. It was glorious! Today, Pastor Joe is pasturing LifeChange Church Wichita with another pastor. But this prayer of repentance lives on.

A GLORIOUS EVENT!

We had our first baptism for 2nd Chance Ministry on April 26, 2023! These six young men have given their lives to the Lord and were very anxious to get on to baptism. They have been preparing for this for some time. Pastor Daryl Brezee of The Church of the Way in Sebring has worked with the men in preparation and assisted by Chuck from Lake Placid, baptized them in Lake Jackson.



► Left to right
Joey Engle
Michael Minton
Michael Kinsella
Justin Seals
Al Dodd
Omar Cortez

They were accompanied by the six men in the program: Paul, Chris, Jordan, Richard and Robert.



Al first asked some time ago to be baptized, so we asked who wanted to make a public commitment of their faith in Jesus. Five more joined Al. Later, Al was notified that his judicial case in Pinellas county wanted him returned to serve 4 months with them and he wanted to be baptized before he left. We have all been in earnest prayer that he would not have to go. Last week, he received a letter from Pinellas that he had a court appearance on the 26th, the day of the baptism and he would have to miss it. Then on the 25th, he was notified that it had been rescheduled for the following week! A little miracle. It is so neat to see God Himself build faith in these men. Now we are praying they rethink returning him and let he stay in the program. Each man has his own story of God's work in their life and their thanks for what He has done.

Our thanks to Pastor Daryl from The Church of the Way in Sebring and the Way Church body who so generously loved and supported these young men. Our special thanks for a former Little Lamb Volunteer, Roger Giegerich from The Way, for facilitating lots of things for us. And another thank you to Chuck from Lake Placid, their Celebrate Recovery teacher, for helping in the water with the baptism.

We wanted a low key celebration, as Mr. Aldo Guzman said, "they need to let the spirituality of the situation soak in," rather than party. But then again, this was the original request from the men. They have been in other programs where baptism is treated as a party and the results were not spiritual. They have already gained so much wisdom and are learning to resist compromise. Please keep praying!!!