



John & Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>



Little Lambs Inc.

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APRIL 2012



Pruning, pruning, pruning

It's spring again and time to prune! All the old growth, like yesterdays accomplishments, need to be cut away and we can see clearly where we are going. God uses pruning to encourage new growth and more fruitfulness. Leviticus 5 tells us that a vineyard is sown, digged and pruned to produce fruit. In John 15, Jesus says "every branch in me that bears not fruit he takes away (cuts off, prunes), that it may bring forth more fruit. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch and is withered and men gather them and cast them into the fire and they are burned."

Something I noticed, when I first mentioned that we needed to pull up the old plants (and some tomatoes that never produced well) so we could plant new ones and renew the garden, I felt a real resistance from the girls. This was their first garden and they had become quite attached to the plants having had a very fruitful season. But the fruitfulness was waning, so pruning and pulling we must. Then just this month we were drowning in leaves and we had to have professional pruning for the very high trees. Without this pruning, the leaves would have killed all our plants. It was the same with the crepe myrtles which were covered with a black scale. With a lot of urging, we pruned all the leaves and branches off and what joy to see the beautiful new growth that has emerged now. A gardener must understand pruning and submit to the process. What a lesson in life as we realize that lots of things have to go to get serious with God.

And of course spiritually, God is our good gardener. He will prune us when He decides that we need it. Sometimes we feel like we will die, but He knows that without pruning we settle on our lees. That is we become comfortable and resist change and exercise no faith. Even Jesus underwent God's pruning! He was cut down! He said, "Except a corn of wheat fall unto the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it brings forth much fruit." Everywhere a little cherry tomato fell, we have a hill of tomatoes growing up in its place! Jesus understood that he had to die to bring many sons to glory. After His death, He became the 'firstfruits from the grave." We will celebrate this triumph next Easter Sunday as we joyfully accept any pruning necessary in our own lives knowing that our Savior submitted Himself to the same.

My Covenant With Jesus, An Easter Lesson from an Inmate named Roger:

That's a very mild way of putting it. The truth of Christianity lies in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave. The question was not whether He was a good teacher or a prophet, but did He rise from the dead? The apostle Paul was perfectly clear about its importance, "If Christ has not been raised, then your faith has nothing to it; you are still guilty of your sins." 1 Cor. 15:17

Christianity maintains that in Jesus, God broke into our world. His whole life was a demonstration of what God is like. And when man crucified Him through envy and hatred on the first Good Friday, God raised Him from the dead on Resurrection Day, vindicating His claims, His teachings, His life, and His sacrificial death.

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That is and always has been, the Christian claim. So if you want to examine the truth of Christianity and whether or not you can credit the answers it gives to the problems of our world, it is to the resurrection you should turn. Jesus' own words, I am the way, and the truth, and the life; the only way to the Father is through me (John 14:6), leave no room for doubt concerning His understanding of His person and work He came to do on this earth. He also said, I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in Me will have life even if they die. And everyone who lives and believes in me will never die (John 11:25-26). The resurrection is clearly the event in human history that boldly demonstrates the existence of God and His intentions for the salvation of man.

What makes the Christian Faith unique is that it is founded on this unique historical event. No other religion can make such a claim.

John and Eileen, can you imagine what it was like for those first century followers of Christ, when they turned the world upside down? And the world has never been the same! All of history bears testimony to this fact that the early Christians turned the world for the better.

Human dignity, decency and honor followed where ever Christianity spread...

And a statement was made, explain my covenant with Jesus.....

.....To go to the four corners of the world revealing the mysteries of the Gospel. It comes with the territory when I accepted Christ as my savior.

Ephesians 6:15, shodding my feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace. And Ephesians 6:19 for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make know the mysteries of the gospel.

Roger

Dear John & Eileen,

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ. I thank God for the both of you and that you are in my life.

I am really glad to be in the family of the Little lambs School of the Bible. Since I have been studying God's word with you my life is not the same. I have not only changed physically, but also spiritually. I have learned about the power of the gospel of grace and how God changes people through Christ. I just thought I would write you and let both of you know that I am changing through your lessons and the Word of God. Darrell FL

Dear John Sala,

I just graduated your Overcomers class, and would like to thank you for helping me. I really had a lot still holding me back. Thanks to the workbook I got most of it out in the open and was able to deal with it. Some of it hurt yet that was a good thing. You helped more than you know. With insight as well as testimonies. I am so thankful I got the chance to go through your class. I pray others will chose to go to it next time. It will open their eyes and their hearts. God will truly work with them. I was abandoned as a child and I never truly overcame that till this class. Thank you. I also enjoyed the story about the dragon. I'm hoping to take Eileen's class next time. God bless you and your ministry. Everett





My name is Anthony and I am an inmate at Caddo CI in Louisiana. I've recently started to find the Lord and I am hoping that he finds me. I study with a group of my peers but sometimes situations occur that hinder my study. One day I asked a fellow study member what do he do when we don't study as a group and he gave me a card for Little Lambs Inc. He told me that I could write and get a study guide and a concordance from your ministry. If that is true I would be truly blessed. I would like you to send my cellmate the same if it's possible. He about to get shipped in a couple of weeks and I want him to continue his study as well. I hope to here from you soon, May God bless everyone.



Little Lambs School of the Bible,

I am writing to you because I am new to Christ and very interested in learning about the Bible and your name and address was given to me saying you have a real good Bible study program and that I will learn plenty through your study! I am very eager to learn all I can about the Lord. I am 44 yrs old and have been to prison 4 different times. I used to run from the churches and thought I knew everything, but as you can see my best thoughts returned me to prison, so I have given up and asked the Lord Jesus Christ to run it for now on! I am an indigent inmate and would like returnable stamped envelope if possible! Ronald P. Fl

AN INMATE'S VISION

I wanted to thank you for the "Little Lambs" lessons and also for the personalized letter and cards. I have no "family" out there so it's nice to know someone loves me. I also wanted to share a ministry that God put on my heart a couple weeks ago. I was meditating one morning on how we are ingrained with sin. We are born sinful (If that wasn't true we wouldn't need baby-proof locks on our under-sink cabinets.) and I thought how great it would be if every baby came with a bible. Then I thought "Why not?" Look at Gideons! I want to start a ministry that gives out free bibles to hospitals to give to every new baby before they leave the hospital (baby blue and baby pink) so they'll be more likely to be left on display in baby's room. During those late nights of feeding, crying, and anxiety when a new parent cries out "Dear God, what can I do?" the answer will be right there on baby's dresser. A bible. Maybe a parent will even read it out loud to baby. I think it's a great idea but being in prison all I can do is share this idea with people like you and pray that eventually someone tells someone who cares. I love you guys.

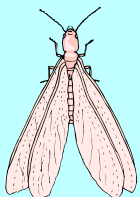


**GRACE PLACE
WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE, PREFERABLY DEAD**

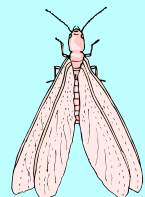
CAN YOU HELP US?

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU

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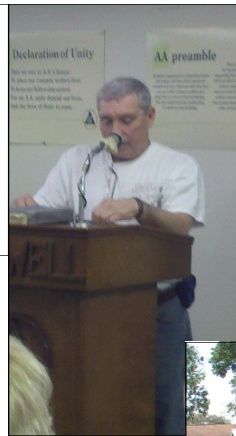


Pat Villere from the quilting guild has come on board to teach the girls sewing lessons. Even our housemothers are learning this important skill.

Our tool shed



Class in Session



Gary Coble, first time sober more than 6 months in his adult life, is celebrating his 5th year of sobriety in Wichita after 3 years in John's class. He is now reaching out to many others.

Below The shade cast a long shadow over the garden. The pruning has since removed a lot of the shade and the leaves!!



Left Jeff Shoemaker teaching our Monday night Overcomers class has just received his Certified Overcomers Facilitator Award.



Anger Management/Biblical Parenting Class held at the First Presbyterian Church. Our class just graduated after 10 weeks of intense study. We love seeing and hearing of the changes in attitude and lifestyle. Many return to church and restore family relationships. A new class starts on May 2, 2012. Please call Eileen to register @ 863-382-3325

Dear Partners,

We not only feel pruned, but shaved! We saw a swarm at the back of the Grace Place and what do you think are the dreaded words: **It's Termites!** We consulted with the friendly Orkin man you see below and he confirmed it, subterranean termites. As you know, it is an extensive treatment since they were swarming out of all the attic space. It is going to be very difficult since the house is so old and we attempted the first entrance under the house and were told the concrete footings are too thick to drill through. Please pray for us to really get this problem solved. Orkin says it will take over \$2,000 to complete the job. All the piers under the house will have to be treated, a trench 1 1/2 ft deep, 6 inches wide dug to apply product. John is continuing to get estimates for the treatment.

Otherwise, it has been a great month. We have had graduations all round and such good reports from the students. Lots of things going on at Grace since we added our new housemother. Kim Tish will help direct the program and Glenda Jones is relieving me so that I have only 2 nights one week and 3 another. What a blessing! We are excited about staff training and preparing for another class at the prison. We are hoping Brother Charlie Coriell will teach a bible class at Grace Place too.

Thinking of Jesus' great sacrifice for me and you, has made us stand in awe to serve at this time in history. Bible prophecy is coming to a close right before our eyes. It is a time to be excited. The Bridegroom is coming soon. Look up, your redemption draws nigh.

Much love, John and Eileen



APRIL 2012 SCHEDULE
2st, 9th, 16th, 23nd, 30th 7:30 – 9PM
Overcomers in Christ Recovery
Little Lambs, Inc. with Jeff
Open Meeting– Men & Women

Anger Management/Biblical Parenting
To Begin on May 2, 2012
First Presbyterian Church Sebring, Fl.
Biblical Look at Anger & Parenting –
Eileen

Thursdays 6:30 – 8 PM
Sexual Integrity for Men – Larry