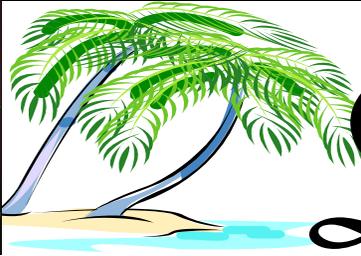




John & Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>



Little Lambs, Inc.

PO Box 504 @ 710 S. Eucalyptus St. Sebring, FL 33871-0504 863-471-2626 MAY 2010

Where do we learn "Motherhood"? It is amazing to see the young women that come to us, thrust into the roles of mothers, struggling to complete a task they know nothing about. Their lives were spent on fun, games, music, friends, entertainment, some fighting abuse and drugs. Seldom did they sit at mom's knee to learn about family responsibility or help with raising younger siblings. Seldom was self-sacrifice required of them. Instead they chased their fantasy of the 'perfect mate', only to find gross imperfection, even gross sin. Absorbed in an all consuming extremely dysfunctional relationship, they bring little children into the world and they have very little, if any, emotional energy or spiritual to deal with children and their growing needs.

This is the sad state of motherhood for a large part of our population. They are confused, depressed, frightened and lonely. They are desperate for a better way. Once such young lady, we'll call her Clara, came to class. She shrank away from contact, head bowed, slunk down in her seat. She seemed in a fog. But as class followed class, the change in her was evident. Her eyes came alive. She sat up straighter. Even her case worker called to comment on the changes in her and her significant other. Then came test night and I received a very pleasant surprise. When she turned in the test, finished before many others, it was evident that she came fully prepared. Her answers were extremely informed and well written. So much so that I enclosed a letter with her certificate encouraging her to consider more education or training. To see these young women and some with their mates, return to their homes and families armed with the knowledge which gets their kids back and keeps them safe is very rewarding for us. We can see when the lights go on and somebody is there.

Ruby, not a mother, escaped her mother's torment and was living in her car when she came to us. Years of fear and emotional battering took its toll on her. Today she is a beautiful young lady with a job, and a future, and a hope. Although there is a lot more to her emotional recovery, she has come a very long way. She wanted to tell her story as she looked back from where she had come. We are so blessed and you should be too, to be able to impact so many women and their children so significantly and change the future by giving them a hope and a vision.



Ruby's Story: What Have I learned in Boundaries/Anger Management Class?

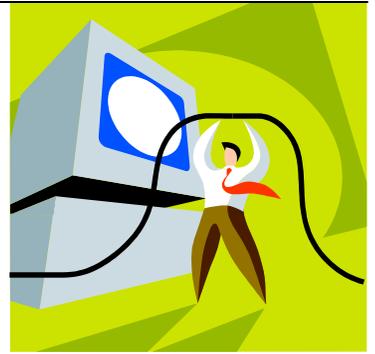
I have become aware of behavioral patterns within the family structure and even without the family structure. Behavioral patterns which I knew were pulling and tearing us all apart, but I did not know why or what the cause was, or really, if it was even truly happening- or just "all in my mind." It has become paramount to my understanding the why's and how's of human behavior including my own.

This class has been a sort of redemptive process for me. I have grown to understand myself better and be able to "let go" of judgments, baggage and wounds that have been holding me back. My one regret is that I wish I had a more stable position, in reference to living conditions, that would have allowed me to devote even more of my time and emotional energies into soaking in these enormous amounts of immensely important information. I would go as far as to say, this class has saved my life. On many levels, it

has brought clarity to what was once dark and murky waters. It has brought things to light that I never ever dreamed would be addressed with such appropriateness. (I hope I am making sense.) To know and understand, with depth and precision, things that were eroding relationships in my life, to be able to come to terms with things that have been hidden for so long - to learn that I do have emotional rights as a human being, and I am more than allowed to have boundaries - I am required to have them. I have learned the components that make up great relationships and I have learned what destroys them and why. The Bible states that without a vision the people perish. Well, that has certainly been the case in my life. Without a vision of truth, I was perishing. This education has been the most monumental of my life. I truly believe this class should be a requirement for every human being in society. It has truly been the greatest blessing of my life and I praise and thank God my Savior through Jesus Christ, for saving my life, teaching me the truth and providing for me a life that is more abundant.



For those of you who sent gifts to sponsor our next Overcomers Class, be very encouraged. Instead of the 20 John had last session, word has spread and this session 35 . When asked why the new men enrolled, here are some of their answers:



I'm an alcoholic. I hate saying the word. I grew up in the South Bronx with an addicted father. As was my grand-

father. Both died from the disease. It has been said I was born to be one. My addiction has cost me a business I started in 1970, my family, friends and freedom. Mostly it has cost me my faith. I'm at a point that I no longer think I can recover or deserve any of it. I truly wish my life would end.

I came because of my friend came last class, but I do have a drug problem and I am open, and willing to benefit from it! (The friend was very challenged and worked on some tuff issues)

I participated in the first Overcomers class here at Avon Park. As you can see, I enjoyed the class so much I've come back for seconds! I learned a lot the first time around about myself and I want to continue to grow and mature in my walk with Christ Jesus. So thank you for the Overcomers Group. I look forward to the next several months.

I'm an alcoholic but was also hooked on cocaine. Even though I've been sober for almost 5 years now, I still know I'm not out of the woods yet. This is what I need out of this class. God has me where he needs me and through His grace and mercy I'm in good health and receptive to His education and edification for my soul. It will be through Christ that I will refrain from intoxication and from fellowship to keep me strong. I thank God for opening my eyes and I thank my brothers for a reflection of His love for me. By myself, I'm nothing, but through Christ and my brothers I have hope and life.

I am in prison because of my addiction to cocaine. I lived my life based only on my next line or hit of cocaine. My addiction was totally out of character for me as I was raised in a close Christian family and had the benefit of a college education and a loving wife and children. Trying to understand my addiction and to be able to continue to control it one day at a time is my goal in this class.

Please pray for a mighty healing move of God for this class of determined men . The process is hard, exposing their pain every week. Sometimes it is so painful, they want to drop out. Probably the one who wanted to quit, benefitted the most!! Isn't God glorious. And that happened in the last class with a few that we know of. We study the History of the world, of the Church, of baseball, of business to find out what mistakes were made so not to repeat them. "Forgetting the past" is a process of replacing the lies with the truth. Exposing the secret lies which we believe, that make us sick, so they can then be dealt with and overcome.

Oh, to have such success!

New developments in the School of the Bible. Our volunteers are GRADUATING AS MANY AS 10 STUDENTS A WEEK! It seems that they have taken afire and are so eager to finish. Enrollment through personal letters us up. And we are trying a new technique. Due to requests from Chaplains for bulk materials, we have supplied two prisons with 25 Lesson #1's. The response has been great. The first chaplain wrote asking for more within a two weeks saying they were snapped up, that the men loved them. The other wrote the same but requesting that we send them c/o the Chaplain's Office. We are waiting to see the response in completed returned studies. If the return rate is good, we can continue to target prison chapels as distribution. Pray for the continued impact of the Word in these student's lives! The School is alive & producing fruit. We had a call from Oregon and a call from Michigan last week. Both were former inmate Graduates who called to thank us for the help through the bible study and to express their love for us and the Lord. Sunday at church a lady grabbed me and told me how being in class two or more years ago has made a huge difference in her life and how happy she has become with the Lord. PTL



April Financial Report Income \$5470

Expenditures \$5325

Costly supply reorder coming up in May over and above income. This does not include the Women's Home which is separate. They do not mix! A designated gift for the woman's home goes to another Account.