

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 **September 2012**

From John's Desk

This issue is being rerun because of the difficulty and struggle that exists within and without the hearts of many around us. I pray this will reach those who may be encouraged most by it. In 1992 when this was printed the "dear friend" I was talking about was me, however I am still here. You can make it too. John

NEVER GIVE UP

We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed...."(2Cor. 4:7-9)

Recently, a dear friend came very close to throwing in the towel on his life and work, and starting over some place new. Apparently things became so difficult that he was ready to quit rather than continue the struggle. In the crucible of crisis many men quit rather than face the difficulties before them. They are overwhelmed by circumstances and live the rest of their lives defeated. Paul the apostle was never like this that we know of.

Pitted against the ugliness and disappointment of the world, Paul preached the Gospel at all cost. This we do know. Five times he was beaten with 39 lashes. Three times he was struck with rods and once stoned. For one and a half days he clung to a tiny board in the churning sea after one of his shipwrecks. And how about those years in prison. Yet, Paul rises in eloquence by saying, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, works for us a far more exceedingly and eternal weight of glory."(2 Cor. 4:17) Paul did not give up.

There are times we feel like quitting. At these times may we be reminded of Paul's tenacity and determination and endure our hardness like a good soldier. Paul reminds us in Gal. 6:9 that we will reap if we faint not. In our moments of discouragement, and we all have them, may we never lose heart. Christ indeed is in us and these afflictions are merely for the moment. God is not merely with us in good times, but in all times.

Lift up your head and your heart - we have a King

Pressed out of measure and pressed to all length, Pressed so intently it seems beyond strength,
Pressed in the body and pressed in the soul, Pressed in the mind till dark surges roll,
Pressure by foes and pressure by friends, Pressure upon pressure til life nearly ends.

Can the following be why Paul was "Pressed out of measure."?

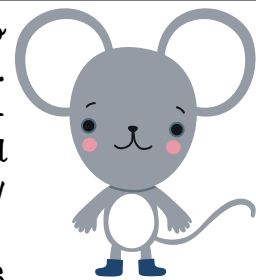
*Pressed into knowing no helper but God, Pressed into loving the staff and the rod,
Pressed into liberty where nothing clings, Pressed into faith for impossible things,
Pressed into living a life for the Lord, Pressed into living a Christ life outpoured.*

"But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in the God Who raises the dead; who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on Whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,"(2 Cor. 1:9-10)

Hang in there Beloved, We Win!

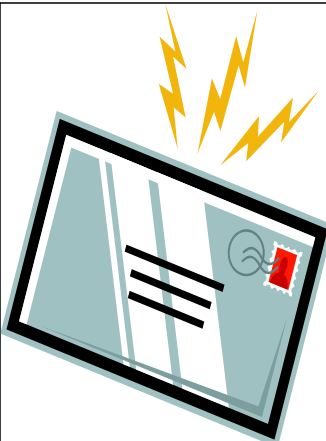
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Thank you again for the studies, they are such a blessing. It is difficult in these surroundings to keep on the path of righteousness. There are many distractions. Also, thank you for the notes. They are encouraging and motivational. I am 56 years of age and my parents raised me as a believer. At night my Dad would tuck me in at bedtime and taught me the Lords Prayer. We would recite it together. I was a television broadcast engineer for just over 26 years. I worked for Disney/ABC TV. 3 of those years were in Toledo, Ohio. Disney / ABC sold the station early in 2011 and I was laid off. I went astray some time back and am now paying for my sins. I have a 16 year sentence. I cannot thank you enough for your studies. I look forward to them. Larry, OH



From Rosalino in the Spanish School

I greet you and your coworkers with affection and respect. Before anything else I thank God for His love towards us who have walked wickedly and are disobedient. I have tried once again to obey the biblical teachings. Thanks for the teachings. They have helped me. A very special teaching is the one on matrimony. It led me to reflect and cry because I was one of those that committed sexual sins, but thank God and to you I have learned and I will not continue in that sin with the help of the Holy Spirit. When the temptation comes, I will say: With the blood of Jesus Christ I cast you out that it no longer has part of my life. I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. I have invited my Lord Jesus Christ into my heart to clean and reign in me all of life that He grants me to live here in this earth.



Dear Salas, My NKJV Study Bible arrived through the mail (and the B.O.P.) safely to me today. Thank you so much for the gracious gift of God's word. It is indeed a blessing and will contribute enormously in my walk with Christ. Thank you again for the bible studies. I enjoyed every single one of them. You are a blessing to so many. See you one day in the New Jerusalem! W. Balance, VA

Spanish School
I would like to know you even with a photo as a remembrance when I return to Mexico and with instructions from God's word, and to testify about you that you helped me have success in the things of God.

Spanish School
I am extremely happy. You have acknowledged me as a spiritual son through that word which you have sent and I accept and rejoice in the Lord Jesus. I know that you serve a living God not a god of the dead—that is why I feel God's love for me through you.

From Santiage in the **Spanish School**
Para John y Eileen: by means of this letter I want to greet you and all those who help in your ministry...I want to thank you for your support, dedication and patience. The studies have helped me very much and I have learned much. I am so proud of having accepted Jesus Christ as Lord in my life. I have found great peace that only He can give. I study the scriptures daily. I pray for you and ask you also pray for me and my family. I love you with the love of the Lord. The brothers here also send greetings.

Some day we will recognize each other in God's kingdom. Without fainting we must go on even if our journey is long and those that prosper in the word will reach life eternal.

Dear Mr. John & Mrs. Eileen,



I am writing to say thanks for the time you both took "over the period" I took the Bible Study in order to help me with God's word. Also, to say thanks for the beautiful Study Bible that you mailed to me. I really do appreciate it all! I have also started the Bible Study at PMP Center for Biblical Studies as you encouraged me to do. I would like to say thank you for all your dedication and your brotherly love through these studies. I received the certificates and the letter you mailed to me. I am writing to ask you to write a letter of recommendation to my classification officer so the staff here can see how I have turned my life over to the Lord and how both of you have monitored my growing wisdom in God's Word. I love you from the Heart,



Alex, FL



My Own Essay: What I have learned at the Ranch



I was asked this week what did I take away from my stay at the Program I attended. I can say that my perspective has changed. The whole admissions process has been defined for me. Their experience has taught that a woman must be desperate and willing to comply fully with the program for success. Coming to escape jail, to pass time until I find something to do, to wait out probation or any of the above will not make a good candidate. Because of the time involved, and the rigors of submission to discipline, an undedicated student will not only not benefit but will cause problems for others. Attitude is everything.

Another very strong impression was the discipline in the program necessary to develop the new thinking and doing for recovery. Being devoted to discipline without questioning is, quite frankly, necessary in our walk with Christ. When we submit in this manner we are actually learning to trust God and the people that God has put in our lives., yielding your will to His will for your life. Maintaining that discipline requires a lot from the staff. They must be aware and communicate totally with one another so that everyone's skills contribute to the whole development of the ladies. As I watched the ladies keep a rigorous schedule like clockwork, the need for constancy, accountability and predictability became evident. Though this sounds controlling, I saw lots of evidence that freedom came with knowing what was required of them and the love that flowed through acceptance, even in failure.

We had tremendous lessons in how to discipline in different situations realizing that we are making disciples of Christ. The acceptance of this discipline because of the love through it, is what transformed these women. And transformation was evident. Watching these women grow, seeing their countenance change, displaying confidence in themselves is so rewarding.

I believe that we are more committed to staff development and the staff at the Refuge Ranch has committed to helping us. We will be returning there regularly for observation and instruction. They have made themselves so available to us and their encouragement is priceless.

Grace Place Gift Package
 We are seeking New or used

 A utility sink


 Extra Large 6' or 8' white or black board

 30x72 folding table

 Thanks to Mike Bevis for cabinets for our porch

Grace Place Gift Packages/Cleaning
 Softscrub (plain)
 Pinesol
 Dish washer soap/tabs
 Windex
 Lysol /Clorox toilet cleaner &
 kitchen spray
 Swifter refills
 Dust mop
 Canister vacuum
 Pledge polish

Grace Place Gift Packages/Paper Goods
 Kleenex
 Toilet Paper
 Paper Towels
 Paper Plates
 Plastic Glasses
 Napkins



Although we are familiar with recovery and recovery principles, running a group home is not that familiar. We covet your prayers for all our decisions and direction.

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Dear Partners,

Summer has come and gone so quickly. Our summer was quite full. We started with John's back surgery in May, proceeded to a scheduled trip to my daughter Julie's home in Boise, Id, in June. Natalie, our other daughter met me there and we enjoyed a week of mother-daughters time. It was really great! I had not seen our grandchildren for a couple of years and that was neat. We enjoyed picking cherries together and had a bumper crop!

A week after returning, I was welcomed at the Refuge Ranch for women with addictions in Okeechobee where I stayed for 10 days. I was part of their program during that time and spent afternoons in the office learning as much as I could from their years of experience working with addictions and running a home. Returning home meant getting John to some serious appointments and getting on a strict diet. The diet has turned around a lot of things for him and hopefully he is learning to take good care of his only body!:)

Immediately after that, we escaped to a refuge of our own given to us in North Carolina. We spent a week high in the mountains. It was cool and lovely. Natalie joined us there and we juiced and had smoothies the entire week (health food).

We came back refreshed with new zeal but with reality. I guess the biggest lesson I learned this past year is that I do need help! And I have accepted that. We will re-open Grace Place October 1, but we all agree that we must have paid staff or 'missionaries'. I will not be able to stay overnight there any longer. John does not do well alone. This is a new venture for us as you know that we do not have any paid staff at Little Lambs. No payroll. John and I take a housing allowance only. So now I have to learn payroll and have faith to pay for it!! We are starting small with one employee/missionary, Kim Tish.

As our partners know, we have employed Kim Tish as Assistant Director/teacher. We are grooming Kim for a big role in Little Lambs and she is eager to serve the Lord. We respect her walk with the Lord and her heart to give back. Now we need someone who will be our live-in house monitor. We would send her to the Ranch for training as they are more than willing to help us in this way. Kim and I attended a "Sociogram" at the Ranch this last Tuesday and were so blessed to observe the humble and delicate yet profound way they impacted the girls through this exercise. Kim noted that this was not her first sociogram. They had them every two weeks the year she was at the Ranch! But she had never been on the inside, only as a student. It was a tremendous learning experience for us. Please pray for us and for our finances and for the women who will be coming to us. Our first lady is due in October 1.

Our thanks to all the volunteers, especially Jan Ryan, for keeping the office running smoothly during my absence. The mail volume had kept up and our postage is currently running at more than \$300 a week. What a blessing that is! And the letters reflect such a good response and spiritual depth from the students.

And thanks to all of you for your continued support in these trying times. As all of your expenses go up, so do ours. The burdensome regulations that impact our business sector, impact us as well. We surely empathize with all of you and place great value on your sacrifices to support the work of Little Lambs. We must all pray sincerely for our country in these months ahead. PS Below is Fred and Melanie Beeson from the Refuge Ranch Women's Program in Okeechobee, our Mentors.

Schedule for September 2012

Mondays.....Overcomers @Little Lambs 7:30 pm
Tuesdays.....Overcomers @ Avon Park Prison
Thursdays.....Sexual Integrity Meeting every other
week @ Little Lambs Inc.
Sept 9Hernando CI, Florida Women's Prison

Parenting/Anger Management New Class
To Begin September 5, 2012
Call ASAP for interview & registration
863-471-2626 from 9-12

