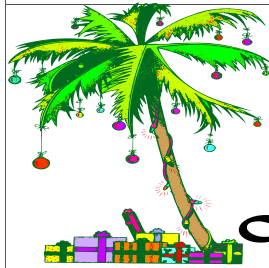




John & Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>



Little Lambs Inc.

PO Box 504 @ 710 S. Eucalyptus St. Sebring, FL 33871-0504 863-471-2626 DECEMBER 2013

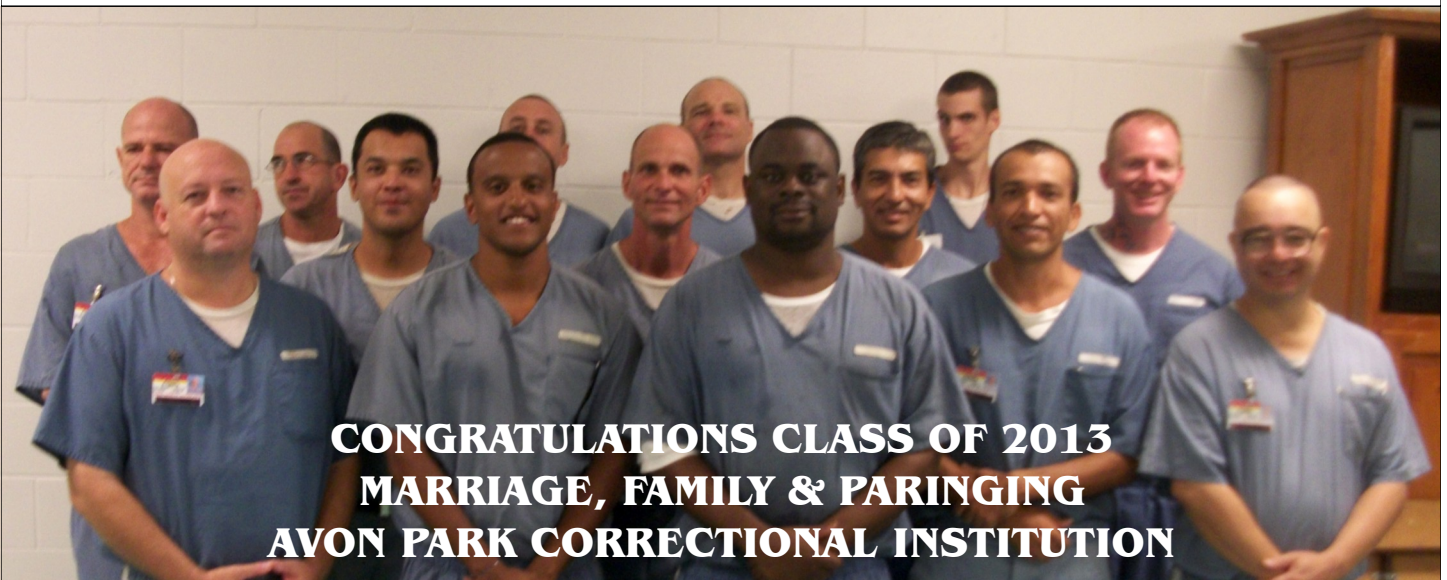
Do you remember Christmas before you were saved? My biggest memory was attending midnight mass with my 6 brother and sisters, although my mother did not to come. And parochial school with lots of Christmas plays and angel costumes. We did not do much with presents as we had little money and Dad plowed all of it back into the farm. All those years were focused on a special DAY! Not on a person!

Since being born again, all that has changed. Studying early in my walk with the Lord and convicted in my heart that trees were pagan signs of idolatry worshipped as the Yule log or the Asherah pole, I decided not to have a Christmas tree after my divorce. I applaud my two youngest children that not only went through divorce, but they went without a Christmas tree for their mom's sake and never complained. No offense to anyone, but I still don't use a tree. You see, I really have Christmas every day and there is not tree attached to it. Every day I wake up to realize that Jesus lives in me and with me. The eternal Son of God is my Savior.

We are a blessed people! Even if the worst things in the world happened, it would be hard, but we would still be alright because we have Jesus for eternity. And we need nothing of this world to really celebrate the love of God. If we did not have this hope, our faith would be in vain and we would be the most miserable. But Christmas has provided an opportunity for generosity. I loved being in prison on Christmas or Christmas eve, because it was all about Jesus! Not presents, not even food, but fellowship in the Lord. Everyday we give of ourselves, we bring Christmas to someone. So many people have brought Christmas to me by their love and generosity and God has given us at Little Lambs a means of bring Christmas to so many.

This year has brought so many changes. Our world continues to be at peril but now it is closer to home. The world is ravaged with disasters. People are hurting economically everywhere. But believers carry within ourselves the dying and the rising of our Savior and hope that he gives us. No one can take that away. No man can take it from us. We pray that your Christmas is very blessed and that the peace of God will reign in your heart throughout the New Year no matter what happens, knowing that God has ordained all that touches you.

**From all of us at Little Lambs to all of you,
May you have a Holy and Blessed Christmas.**



**CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2013
MARRIAGE, FAMILY & PARINGING
AVON PARK CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION**



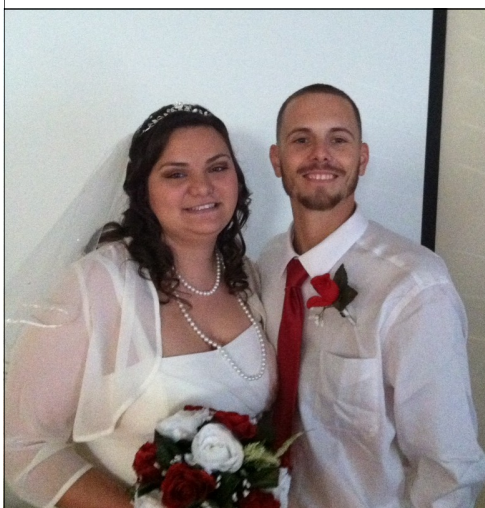
New cost for a case of 20 English Graduation Bibles.....\$340
Postage costs averaging over \$1261 a month last quarter
and rising with postal increase.
Please remember us in your Christmas giving.

Dear John & Eileen,

Hello there! I got your names off of a bulletin board in the dayroom unit where I currently reside. I rededicated my life to Jesus April, 2012. Before April I was a very broken hearted spiritually dead woman living in sin. Tired of being tired and wanting to die I got on my hands and knees out in a yard with inmates walking around and I surrendered my life to the Lord and re-dedicated my life to him. I am now going to the Protestant Church Services at every chance I get. I'm also going to AA and NA meetings. April 3, I quit taking a very powerful anti-psychotic medication called Navane. I took it for 25 years. Unable to cope, I am now taking another anti-psychotic. My therapist told me that when my faith grows so big and I am totally filled with the spirit then I will be able to get off the meds. I still feel weak. Time only friends that I have is Jesus, and my family. Now that I am in God's tender care once again I believe that I am on the right path and with his guidance he will get me out of here. I have been here 16 years and I don't want to die in here. I have 3 adult kids and 3 small grand kids and parents that are still alive. I very much desire to be a part of their lives. Please help. I need your Bible Studies. I am trying to do what is right but I need some help. Barbara, Ca

Dear Salas, I am 25 years old and now I am on my way to prison. I've been sentenced to 8 years and 5 years to run concurrently. I've been in jail going on 8 months. I spent the first 6 months in another jail away from home. Now that I have been sentenced I'm back in my home town. I'm around everybody I can say I know. We all do our best to stick together and we have a bible study every night before we lay down our heads. I read this pamphlet I found laying beside my bed and that's why I'm writing. I would like to start receiving anything you have that will help me further or should I say help me and the fella's with our bible study. We are in a bad, well old and run down jail where we have it rough. But I believe the bible I read gets me by every day. Please pray for all of us inmates in the County Jail. Opie, Ok

Dear Mr. And Mrs. Sala, I got your present you sent me. The Bible is beautiful. I've never had a bible like this before. It's almost undeserving. I'm not worth such a niceness. Thank you so much. I really liked doing your study. It made me find the verses, you know what I mean. I haven't heard from my family in 3 years. I have asked my family for forgiveness. I wish they would lighten up on me. But the hardest thing I have not learned to do is forgive myself. Sad, huh. Well thanks again for your love and the Bible. I'll cherish it forever. Bill, In



Wedding Bells! Meet Jamie and Joe. They came through our classes over the last year and were avid students. There is no recovery without God, and we encouraged them to make God the captain of their whole lives. They decided to get married; we paid for their license and even got ourselves ok'd as a pre-nuptial counseling provider in the bargain. Once the wedding was on, their whole family came together to plan and orchestrate their wedding. It happened in less than a month, last Saturday, and it was beautiful. Joe has sought admission to Faith Farms recovery program for even more recovery and is on the waiting list. They wanted to go through his program together and are trusting God to work it all out. We urge you to keep them in your prayers as they deal with all the issues of a life and are separated during his program.

Marriage, Family, & Parenting Graduation Essays 2013

I really enjoyed the class a lot and I learned a lot about dysfunctional family. I really enjoyed learning about the love tanks and the role God plays in our lives. I never knew there were some many boundary until I took the class. I hope that you keep teaching the class and help others like me....

The part of this course that has affected me the most is the entire model dealing with codependency. I now realize that most of my past relationships have been codependent and totally unhealthy.

I found it disturbing to find myself and a lot of my character traits described in detail. Now, through this course, I have been forced to face that reality. I am learning to deal with this issue. I have learned to stand back, separate myself and analyze not only my motives but also motives of others I am involved with.

I've learned that to avoid becoming entangled in codependent relationships I must first be able to live comfortably by and with myself and the Lord. I have to rely on the Lord above all others and feel his love for me and my self-worth in his eyes. Without knowing and feeling his love I can't love another. No one on this earth can fulfill my needs like the Glory of God can, will and does.

Now that I see and accept his Grace and Love I am no longer dependent on others for validation of my worth or love. I come from a multi-generational family of addicts and codependency and like any cycle can and will be broken with me through seeing the problem and through the process of detachment becoming free of these codependent relationships. I can now apparently accept my part in the negative outcome of past unhealthy relationships and avoid the same pitfalls in the future. I can analyze past failures, see why they failed and hold myself accountable to God and his wishes for my life. In summation, this area of the class is the one I needed the most and will prove to have the biggest life-change for me.

Key to Life is a living relationship with Jesus the Christ, my own. Dependent on me, no one else. I can change me not others, but if I'm right with God than I can impact others but only God and themselves can change them. My boundaries are set by God's word only and how I see myself and others from God's word will dictate how I treat them. My wife cannot give me peace or make me happy or fulfill me, nor can I do that for her. If we both love Jesus then we can love one another. Our boundaries should be the same and we should be able to raise healthy, successful children, who in turn should love God, find another person who does also and so on and so on. We both came from broken youth's, early years with the same type of abuse and I see how that has affected the rest of my life. It's been there but we don't realize how it moves us, affects us, why we react the way we do, or even do the things we do. So we repress and suppress but this hidden 'hurt', it affects us and our actions and we may well be blind to it. So we must forgive others, take responsibility for our actions, confess them, ask for forgiveness, move on, not live in the past, **NAIL IT TO THE CROSS**, and leave it. So we change our core beliefs about our selves and the world, break the cycle of our addiction. We learn boundaries, good ones, we detach if necessary, from people and their problems; grow and change and teach others. We have changed and let them see over time we can be trusted and faithful. I have left your class feeling down and depressed when you speak of the past and got home, not wanting to come back. I must finish what I started and God has given me a soft heart but I'm stuck to finish this. When you speak to us remember our situation and the pressure and strain we are under. Hear, thank you so much Sister, God uses you in a great way. Thanks again.

Taking this class has really opened my eyes to living with boundaries and not needing some ones love to the point where I become dependent upon that person instead of God. I also learned to stay away from partners that do drugs or alcohol as that is a bad situation waiting to happen.

I wish I would have had this knowledge about relationships many years ago as it would have saved me many days of trouble. In the end I have learned how to rely on God more than any one person as you cannot make someone care or love you if they don't. Thank you for this class. If I could attend this type of class again I would.



Continued from page 3 Student Essays

What an opportunity to learn the meaning of the awesome word "NO" with all of its authority and boundaries that you made so clear to me through your demonstrations, hand-outs, which have been helpful in revealing how I have acted in an inappropriate manner through my temper tantrums, boundaries that I never set or respected or even questioned from my previous marriage and how much of an empty tank I have been for so long.

The reality of not respecting my own self along the way is a good way to learn where I need to set these boundaries and start setting goals for my self. What a difficult read at times to see my dysfunction in your hand-outs. I am praying over my faults and wrong-doing. May this class continue with its great rewards that are being granted to people like me. I truly enjoyed each and every session as the material was being discussed and presented. It has blessed me immensely in my walk today.

You know, family is going to be family. Regardless of their functionality or dysfunctionality, I have to love them always with my boundaries from afar as they are about their ways which are not to healthy for me. Who knows everything is subject to change and God is good all the time. May God bless you and your ministry.

Dear Partners

Just coming from a wonderful Thanksgiving, we are headed to Christmas. As I look around me, I find all the things for which I am very thankful, the greatest of which is you! I was lamenting of the rising costs of everything, especially bibles, when a letter came in that set my perspective aright. The student said, *"I want to thank you and your ministries, you been faithful to give to the poor and those in need. You gave the Word, through lessons, you made me read the Bible when I did not want to, because to get the answer we had to go to the bible. You paid for the stamps. Without you doing that I could not finish the courses. You gave me a beautiful bible. I want to thank you so much, for the Open Bible. I love it. Thank you for all you have done for me, Please keep me in prayer. I gave your address to a few people here. I pray these will find God as I did. Again, thanks very very much. Love in the name of Jesus, Joycelyn."* You have done that! You have enabled us to do this great work for the Lord. You touched this lady's life for the Lord.

Although 2014 holds many challenges, we see fruit and are encouraged. Our main thing must remain the main thing: The Word of God! We need graders this new year. Retired teachers and teacher aides seem to like it best or I should say, detail oriented people. Please pray for another one of our volunteers, Marge DeLong. Marge is struggling with some health problem that is hard to diagnose. Our graders and volunteers are our unsung army. Call us if you feel like joining us. We have another new volunteer, Linda Colonna. Linda comes to us from Bible Fellowship Church and has been a long-time partner with Little Lambs. She is in the office on Fridays.

2014 also holds another challenge. As all of you face rising costs, we will face rising postage costs: 3 cents or 49 cents for the first ounce and 1 cent for every additional ounce over the current 20 cents. You have given us a financially sound year and we continue to cut corners. It is impossible to send our studies electronically as inmates do not have that kind of access. Discipleship makes it's greatest impact with a hands-on relationship as our lessons do.

And without our tracking system, we cannot offer the incentives that keep our disillusioned students involved and growing and changing. We pray that you have a blessed and safe New Year, especially prosperous in the Word of God!

Your servant,

Eileen Sala

SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2013

**Tuesdays: Bible Study with Phil Esposito
Avon Park Prison**

**Tuesdays: Marriage Family & Parenting
Avon Park Prison with Eileen**

**Wednesdays: Anger Management/Boundaries
6:45pm First Presbyterian Church
LITTLE LAMBS OFFICE HOURS 9 TO NOON
@ 710 S Eucalyptus St. 863-471-2626**