



Little Lambs Inc

A John & Eileen Sala Prison Ministry

www.littlelambsinc.org

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January 2016

2015		
2015 SPANISH		
Lessons	1,037	
Graduates	34	
2015 School of the Bible		
Month	Courses graded	Gra duat es
Jan	426	7
Feb	362	12
Mar	490	9
Apr	432	7
May	388	4
Jun	505	10
Jul	475	11
Aug	442	9
Sep	475	13
Oct	486	19
Nov	428	10
Dec 22	315	11
total	5,224	122
New Students 1,911		



Greg

There are two remarkable stories that came across my desk in December. One is this young man here in the picture: Gregory. Gregory came into my office in September to interview for Anger Management. He sat down and said, I don't believe in God or any of that stuff. I told him it was a Christian class and we would mention God and the bible a lot. He agreed to come. Well, we had quite an interview because Greg had very definite opinions. As it turns out, his father was a terrible addict and dealer on the east coast of Florida. His mom did drugs as well. His childhood was something we can't imagine. He was around lots of money, violence, and very bad people. He had been very hurt and quickly learned to trust no one. And he was about taking care of himself. He had been to prison several times and has lots of scars, and now a little two year old daughter. He came to class faithfully week after week and listened intently. He would tell me, I want to change my life. He listened as I told him and the class about God, read from the word, even showing them God's love. He would come after class and convicted every week, he would repent for his behaviors, especially in his home with his wife and child. He was so sincere it was humbling to see. I gave him a children's CD and book that we had from our last family outreach and he began listening to them with his daughter. He wanted to read the word, we gave him a bible and a bible study. He soon discovered that his learning disability prevented him from comprehending, so we gave him an easier version. He began his journey. He became a very changed man! It showed in his face, in his manner. As he completed the course, he asked about a church. We recommended a men's bible study and fellowship in a church setting. He committed to go.

The remarkable things is that although he did not read well, he gave the hand-outs to his mother as well. He said she would read them and cry and ask his forgiveness for her actions as his mother. I believe that this whole family will be changed by this young man. The last day of class he stayed late and he prayed to receive Jesus as his Lord and Savior. Happy Day! **Greg's essay is on the following page.**

The other was a letter from a student from the year 2000! How about this for follow-up! We do what we do, then we trust God to water and make the faith grow! James had called the office last month and Jan sent him a bible study. Then we received this Christmas Card with a letter from him. It seems that in 2000 we enrolled him in the lessons and he graduated, received his bible, and also got a copy of John's book. All these things made a lasting impression on him. Today I received a Christmas card from James. He had a check for \$50 for a memorial to John, a \$30 gift to me, and this lovely note that made us all tear up. **His letter is on the back page.....**

**Happy
New
Year**

Gregg's Anger Management Essay

THE FIRST THING I LEARNED IS I CAN CHANGE. THE SECOND THING I LEARNED IS I COME FROM A DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY. THE THIRD THING I LEARNED IS GOD WILL ACCEPT ME AND WORK WITH ME TO GET BETTER AND LOVE ME AND HELP ME LOVE OTHER PEOPLE.

SO TO START OUT, I WAS NOT ABUSED AS A KID PHYSICALLY. IT WAS MENTALLY. MY PARENTS FOUGHT WITH EACH OTHER AND WERE INVOLVED WITH THEMSELVES. I HAD TO BASICALLY TAKE CARE OF MYSELF BE-SIDES MONEY AND DINNER. WELL PRETTY MUCH ANY THING YOU CAN THINK OF I HAD IT. PEOPLE CALL IT BEING SPOILED. I THOUGHT IT WAS LOVE BUT NOW I KNOW IT HAD TO DO WITH AN ADDICT FOR A FATHER AND A CODEPENDENT FOR A MOTHER. BUT I FEEL I CAN OVERCOME THE CYCLE. GOD IS THE REASON I'M STILL ABLE TO THINK AND LIVE, EVEN WITH MY SINS I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE WITH THE HELP OF GOD. WITHOUT HIM I DON'T THINK THERE WOULD BE MUCH OF CHANCE FOR ME. BUT THERE IS A GOD SO I'M ON THE WAY OF BEING REBORN INTO A BETTER WAY OF LIFE SO I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR TEACHING ME ALL THIS NEW STUFF SO I HAVE THE RIGHT TOOLS TO BETTER MYSELF. GOD IS GOOD & GOD IS GREAT & GOD IS LOVE. GREG

Brother Jerry Update: Graduate 2013

I'm still reading my bible and doing other bible courses and self help courses. I continue to stay positive and focus. And since my last parole hearing in 2014, I achieved my high school diploma. I'm in a vocational trade—Autobody, and "Alternatives to Violence Project". As well as attending "Criminals & Gangmembers Anonymous" and done a Relapse Prevention Plan.

Well I been in prison since 1990. I was 18 years old. I'm 43 years old now and been in prison 25 1/2 years. But I also been disciplinary free going on 9 years in January 2016. So I'm trying my best to do good. I want to thank you for reading my letter and my support letter. Jerry PS Do you know of any transitional housing?

We sent Jerry's support letter and looked on the internet for transitional housing in California. We were able to give him several addresses.

John & Eileen! How are you? Fine I hope and pray. Will I know you don't know me. I got your card maybe 5 years ago. I never wrote. I got it from my ex-wife. She told me about you guys and said that y'all were great people. I don't know why I didn't write then, but I do know that now God has put y'all on my heart to write to y'all. I'm still in prison now, have been for 12 years now. I got 4 1/2 more to go and I don't know what to do. I'm no longer close to God like I want to be. I try very hard sometimes. I still mess up and get in trouble a lot. I don't want to live like that no more. I was sitting in my bed just thinking about what I can do to get back on track with God. I've tried all kinds of bible studies and nothing works for me. Then God put y'all on my mind. All I could think about was that card my ex-wife sent to me. I cried cause I could not find it. Like I said, it was maybe 5 years ago when I got it. So I started looking again for it. This time I went through everything I had. I found it and was so happy to have it. I just looked at it. I didn't know what to write or say. So I just looked at it until now. I'm writing to you. I don't know how y'all can help. All I know is that GOD wanted me to write to y'all. I need someone I could write to and pour out my heart. I need someone real, not a bible study. I love bible studies, but I need a real person in my life to let me know that GOD still loves me and that there is still hope for me. I'm really lost right now. I need guidance in my life. I'm hoping that you or someone from your ministry can help me out. I'm 42 years old. I'm from Avon Park. Lived there all my life. Don't want to go back the same way I left. Well, I won't hold you long, until next time. Leon I have asked a male from our ministry team to write to Leon. We do not recommend pen-pal relationships, but he can minister to him.

Mail Box

Dear Mr. And Mrs. Sala, Thank you for sharing this course with me. It has been a big help. Knowing that there are people out there like yourselves makes it easier. You could be doing anything, but you are helping people. That really make s me feel good. Thanks to you and your staff.

About the bible. I have a sister that lives in Lake Wales and she is a devout Christian. And she is the main reason that I started my walk, if not for her I would still be lost and if there is any way possible you could mail the bible to her I would appreciate that. That is what I was going to do anyway for her Christmas Gift!!:) She is my angel, my lighthouse and I love her dearly and this will be a nice gift for her. I would appreciate this very much. God bless you, James



Dear Mr. & Mrs. Sala, May God continually bless you and those you hold dear to your heart but most importantly the fruits of your labor, may they be prosperous for God's will. My name is Steve. I'm currently confined within a Secure House Unit. I have a life sentence to pay for past unpardonable crimes and behaviors and the persistent practice of them which go hand in hand with a prison faction and its philosophy only landed me further and further in a place of Darkness where our kind are placed up for storage and set on a shelf.

Here in darkness I found light and came to know the Lord Christ our Savior. I found him or could say He found me in my lowest point, and he revealed his grace to me, thanks be to God. As of since I have done as much searching of the word. I came across your ministry and in a elongated period I completed your study. I've been confined in the SHU and in solitary confinement for close to a decade and I'm coming close to being released into general population of the prison. I would greatly appreciate your prayers in my road to come, that I may be a vessel that God may use for His honor and glory. I thank you for your ministry and what you do for inmates. Steve PRAY, PRAY



At the end of the day, the judge can't give me over 25 years. God is good and I still leave everything in his hands! I have been having up and downs mostly up and I know no mater I go through daily God blesses me the moment my eyes open! Trying to deal with our fallen world I allow myself to get confused sometimes cause I don't want to hurt people's feelings. I know God made one man for one woman, but it's hard trying to explain it to a person without sounding judgmental or hurtful! But I was reading my daily bread and this first touched me and prompted this letter. Matthew 25:31-40...because you are who He is talking about. And you have been doing the heavenly Father's work and will! Because I was hungry, and thirsty for the Father, Jesus, the Spirit, the word and change. I was living the wrong life so I was a stranger and you invited me in. I was naked and you have clothed me with your studies and spiritual information! I was sick with sin living the life I have been living and everything y'all been sending me is helping healing me! I'm in prison and with the studies, card and information, you have been visiting me in spirit! And I know because God, Jesus and the Spirit is working through you and is helping me. I want you to know you have been a tremendous help to me in changing my life, learning of the Father and the Son and every thing you send me! Thanks for being an angel of the Lord. Glory be to Do and He bless you. Love, Leslie

Hi, John & Eileen It's been a while, I was at outside court, but I'm back on things again. I'm still playing guitar for the praise team. God is using me wherever I go, I am a willing vessel! I missed doing my Little Lambs, it was locked in storage. There is no greater priority than God in my life. He has worked a miracle with me changing the old me to his servant, the humble meek new me! It took close to 2 years and God gave our 2 year old child back to my wife Krissy last month. That's what I was at court about!

I met a legal guy when I got back from outside court and he reviewed my case and said I was sentenced all wrong. He helped me write an appeal. I just sent it last week. God made that happen also. I placed my petition at court at Our Lord's feet. I leaving it there. I trust His will and will carry that faithfully out. So I just wanted to let you know what's up and God is good all the time! I thank him for you both. Doing this course has got me really trying to learn God's will for my life and to share it with others! My songs He gave me tell the gospel and the music attracts people who wouldn't normally go to church, Praise God. Your brother, Dave

After an excellent 2 crowded-page-essay on Joseph in Genesis, Willie wrote:

Thank you. The book (I'm Not Coming Back, The John Sala Story) reminds me so much of my own life. I really enjoyed it, very inspiring. Several of my fellow brothers have also been inspired by your testimony. So your book is floating around this 58 man dorm. I believe that your story is something we all can relate to. I do apologize for the delay, but the Lord has me teaching a bible study, 7 days a week. What started out as 3 or 4 people has increased to 14 people a night. All glory be to our Heavenly Father, who adds daily to the church!

This is James' from page one letter: Dear Eileen,

I want you to know I haven't forgotten about John's story and life. I have been comparing it to my own and applying some of the things he taught in his book. I recall especially how he talked about being a "giver" instead of a "taker" in life. That lesson resonates in my mind all the time and is one of the improvements I have made in my own life. I am starting the Little Lambs course all over and consider it a true miracle that Little Lambs is still pushing on in the world. I called 411 for the number and it connected me to the office. I spoke with Janice, I think, and she sent me the first lesson recently. What you folks do is very honorable and noble and does have a positive impact on lots of people. I keep your letter written to me in 2000 on my desk and read it often. Someday, I hope to visit you and Little Lambs and see for myself how God has operated through John to make his vision and purpose possible. I was very sad and cried when I heard he passed away.

Have the best Christmas! Here's a gift for you to enjoy a nice dinner or whatever you choose. With Kindest regards, very truly yours, James R. GA

Dear Partners,

Looking back over the year, I want to thank every one of my donors! Our students in every class thank you too. Our numbers of participants has steadily gone up and we continue to send more and more bibles into jails and prisons. Your faithfulness in giving in such a down economy and hard times has been a tremendous encouragement for us. As our donor base shrinks and giving declines, all our volunteers work diligently to hold the costs to a minimum yet continue to give everything away! You currently serve 2,441 students in prison or jail!

We have great news! Mary Tinberg has been led by the Lord to begin her Ladies Co-dependent Class and we are in the process of formally setting the date and time. This is a revolutionary class that helps to transform the mind from old sinful patterns to biblical patterns as well help to solidify a relationship with the Lord. Please pray for the women who will attend this class and know that it is an excellent referral for women in trouble! Like the boundaries class, it brings women out of dysfunction into a functional, self-enhancing relationships. The typical woman has led of life of being a door-mat, tolerating verbal and physical abuse from any and every one, and totally without good boundaries. This is an intimate ministry to women.



I do want to thank all of you for your concern for me. I continue to pray and seek the Lord. It has been found out this week that dairy and wheat free has made a huge improvement. I have tried each alone without success but together it is so much better. Now for the testing. All my allergies tests for plants came out negative. I guess that's a good thing, but not my answer! Just pray for me, please.

As we widen our scope of ministry locally with all the new classes and outreach, we are blessed by having wonderful volunteers who are uniquely qualified to lift up the Lord in every situation. A special thanks with sadness to our volunteer Eileen Saracino who is retiring this year. Eileen retired from Pittsburg, Pa., with Fred her husband and has come every Monday for perhaps 8 years and she is a prolific worker! We will miss her and are very grateful for her years of service. I guess we get possessive and say 'our' volunteers, but we love them dearly. We pray that your New Year is prosperous and ask that you pray for repentance for our country. If my people pray, and repent, I will heal their land!



Much love , Eileen

JANUARY 2016

Mon...Avon Park Prison Bible Study
Mon...Overcomers with Hogar Resa
Tue...Overcomers Avon Park Prison
Tue...Marriage & Family/Biblical
Boundaries Avon Park Prison
Wed...Anger Management/Biblical
Boundaries First Presbyterian
Church @ 7 pm
Wed... Overcomers Bible Fellowship
Church @ 6 pm
Women's Copedendent Recovery
Group TO BE ANNOUNCED
Counseling by Appointment
863-273-7388