

PO Box 504 @ 710 S. Eucalyptus St. Sebring, FL 33871-0504 863-273-7388

MARCH 2017

Released To Love by Mary Tinberg

What is "Released To Love" Recovery meeting. This is a women's meeting that meets at Little Lambs Ministry home every Thursday evening from 6:30 – 8:00.

It is all about the "Holy Spirit's" mighty work of changing the burdened minds and emotions of dysfunctional families. But, more importantly, this meeting is all

about us! We, as God's child, begin to change from the inside – out, mentally, emotionally and spiritually and become more aligned with God's will for us. This change will bring a loving and powerful message to our families and friends.

We come to this meeting struggling with <u>emotional, mental, physical and spiritual</u> difficulties in our families, and relationships with family members. Our relationships outside of our families are a struggle for us. We find ourselves wanting to control and manipulate others or we allow others to control and manipulate us. We carry around a hidden baggage of <u>Fear, Anger, Resentment,</u> <u>Bitterness and Sadness</u>. Many times our baggage is over-flowing and no longer hidden. It's there for all to see! Our grieving from losses is enormous and at times overwhelming.

Jesus said in Matthew 11: 28-30: "Come to me, <u>all</u> you who are weary and burdened And I will give you rest. Take <u>My yoke</u> upon you and <u>learn</u> from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your soul. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Many of us are still carrying a heavy burden from our childhood, which has never been Exposed to the light of Jesus Christ. It is still in the darkness of our troubled minds. These burdens are not intended for us to carry. Jesus wants to release us from <u>all</u> of them. We carry with us burdens that aren't ours to carry. They belong to others. We cannot carry another person's baggage. We become weary and tired of carrying such a heavy load. We want to Let Go and Let God, but don't know where to begin the process of Letting Go.

"Released To Love" is a safe, loving place where women can come and find <u>rest</u> and <u>peace</u> for their souls. This is where we learn how to take out each sin from our baggage that we carry and give it to Jesus. We start to become a "New" woman in Christ. First, by <u>admitting</u> we are not <u>bad</u> people but <u>sinners</u> carrying many burdens of sin and sorrow. Second, we <u>identify</u> what our sins are and look honestly at what these sins are doing to us. Third, we <u>Confess</u> our sins to God in prayer and through sharing with each other. Soon we realize a healing is beginning to take place in our minds and hearts. Praise The Lord!

This meeting is a place where we learn from each other as we allow the healing Power of the Holy Spirit to work in us and through us. As the scripture, Matthew 11: 28-30 tells us (using my own words): We come to Jesus broken and burdened to find REST. Jesus told us to take His yoke upon us and LEARN from <u>Him</u> for He is gentle and humble in heart. Don't we ALL want to be over-flowing with a heart like Jesus'? This is a Recovery only Jesus can provide. This is a LIFE changed! You can experience LOVE, JOY, PEACE, CONTENTMENT and the life God intended for all His children. It is yours if you are willing to begin your journey to RECOVERY in "Released To Love".



Mr. Mrs. Sala, Jesus.... Here I begin.. My name is Adriana. I am here for probation violation. Probation for possession of marijuana, violation for dirty urine, cocaine. I did drugs because I was trying to numb the hurt from my marriage breaking up. My husband had gone to Federal Prison in Big Spring, Tx. Drugs, guns, gang association. When he was in jail he called me to tell me he had a confession to make. He had been going to church and he felt the need to tell me he had been cheating on me and possibly was the father of a little boy one year younger than my fourth baby. I was broken, devastated, hurt, angry. I became a party person, drinking, smoking weed, doing cocaine, being a woman of the world-of sin. I lost myself slowly to the drugs always thinking why my husband did this to me. We still stayed in contact. He just got deported to Mexico in Dec. 2016, after his 6 years sentence was complete. On June 22, 2016, I landed in prison. What failure I felt as a mother. I let myself go because of my broken marriage and I had not been such a great mom when I was spending money on drugs and time out partying. Long story short, on June 25, I was in my truck outside the motel we lived in now, doing cocaine. I was tired of using it. I couldn't stop. I cried alone. I called a good friend. He prayed for me at 4 a.m. when I called him under the influence. I prayed to Jesus to save me! Do something soon! I don't want to live like this anymore! I felt so guilty, ashamed. I felt guilty for not looking for God to help me deal with my broken heart, instead I turned to drug, Ashamed that I was a pitiful mom and a poor excuse as a sister, daughter, person.

On July 6, I arrived at jail. I was happy, can you believe it? I believed in God but I did not look for him. All drugged p I still prayed my rosary every night but I felt ashamed to be like this all drugged on cocaine and talking to God! When I was sober I didn't remember my promises. This gave me shame. So I was happy because Jesus interceded for me! God saved me from doing more drugs by putting me in jail! Praise God!

I have learned so much here in jail. I had requested a book from an inmates paper. I got your book in Spanish. I was the black sheep of the family. The only one to do drugs and get caught up in the system. Your book, Mr. Sala, sweet loving Jesus, was a beautiful testimonial. I cried so much as I felt your troubled heartaches. I too could share the same pain. If it's cocaine, heroine, alcohol, it doesn't matter, I understood what your message was. On page 136 you took the thought and emotion right out of my mind and heart. I too felt that I never want to be a burden to anyone again and need forgiveness for all the pain I have caused. I felt compassion for your mom. Her life was not easy. The last chapters made me cry because Jesus did turn your life around and use you for good things in life, to help others. I saw how I can also be saved. I can also be useful to God someday and help others. I just want to say that I prayed tonight as I finished reading your book in 3 days that I pray - pray pray that God can use me like he used you! God is wonderful. Please keep me in your prayers. Adriana, Tx.

To: Little Lambs Ministry..., I was just thinking about how nice it is to have places like y'all have, that sends bible lessons out in the mail. Y'all send them and when getting them back. grade them and return them with new studys. God is realy good, he make's way's for those that take interest in wonting to learn his way's. take up his cross and do what He. Jesus Christ done for us. This is what the bible tell's us, is for those that know's the way's and not do them. it would be better for this person to never to known them to know them and not do them. It's also like this the word is God, and the teacher is the Holy Ghost, and the Holy Spirit is the guid for everyday life. That when I wake up of the morning time, this is the first thing I do. Is I thank . thank the Lord Jesus Christ for a hole new day of life. I do with starting out with praying to him and then going to the Word, the Holy Bible. I read. and even sometime's I stop and pray while reading His Word. This I do because I love Christ my Lord and Savior. With him through his teaching. I have instructions on the way I walk throughout the day. He gives me wisdom and knowledge of all things and with all this the Spirit inside. But also to get in mail these lessons gets me sharper in my ability by looking up these verses out the bible. This is the very best way that any person can spend them is in the word of God. And not inside the T.V.?, weather out in the world or being locked up. I will do just what I feel that Jesus Christ wont's for me to do or what he has for me to do. But I am very into these ministriey places that sends me lessons or study's to work. I just wont you to know that you are appresheated for what you'll do. Thank you and may God bless you and other's that take's time out of their own life's to do these types of things you do. I am going through a very difficult time in my life and I would like for you and other's to pray for me? Eric. Tx

Dear Salas....Thank God and thank you for your study. I really have learned so much. Not only about God but also myself. I am not going to stop learning. I don't believe retirement is ever mentioned in the Bible.

I did get my bible. I was shocked! It is a new tool to use to dig into the Word of God to find His treasure laid up for me. I am sad y'all study is

over. I wish y'all had another level or tier to move on to! I'm in a faith based dorm and I plan to 'herd some sheep' into your direction. I feel all in the faith based program needs to do your study. If anything I learned my way around the books of the bible. I'm real quick on finding books. In the near future expect a list from Richwood CI of inmates to start your study. My plans are to open a 'Build your own' hot dog and Po-boy place with a baseball theme and call it the "Dug Out." All the Po-boys will be named after the players. I plan to have a weekly Bible Verse on my marquee with a kids club for memorization. I also plan to work with all local churches and fund raisers. I also plan to help support Dixie League



Continued page 3

Continued from page 2 Baseball and softball. I have the floor plan already done and I know that if I put God first, it will work!

God must be a baseball fan, there is a team called the Angels! LOL! You know back in 1968 God blessed them with a rookie pitcher who went on to have over 5000 strikeouts and become a Hall of Famer. That person was and is Nolan Rvan.

I promise not to forget your ministry when I start to proper. I thank God for y'all. Little Lambs has changed my life. Robert, La.

This letter came with the first lesson: Dear Little Lambs, what a blessing this was! Everything you sent me; the letter, the "Little Lamb" birth date saying "We love you", the book mark, and just all of it, had me crying my eyes out with joy. I felt the Spirit fill me up and move me like I've not felt in quite some time. Thank y'all so very much. I can't express to y'all what this all means to me. Y'all are truly a blessing! I'll write y'all soon and let y'all know about me and my life and family and my testimony. I have one heck of a story to tell! For now I just wanted to say thank you and get this lesson sent back so I could get my next lesson Steve

ASAP :) I love y'all so much!

What did I Learn In Class!

The most important aspect of this class for me was the Christian Perspective of Addiction and Behavior Problems. I've struggled with addiction for multiple years and I've tried to use a Secular Behavior Modification Program to treat the underlying cause. You could say that that approach has been very unsuccessful.



Turning my life over to God's care is April was the Turning Point. During the Kairos Weekend I completed my 4th and 5th Step with a Clergy Volunteer. When the Restless, Irritable, and Discontent was removed, the Biblical Teaching this class gave was brought forth. Not just to my mind, but my Heart.

I learned I was a controller, abuser, and I had a host of Boundary Issues. Even though I have no Children or Spouse, I've learned what not to do. By learning this, I can break the Cycle before I pass it on. Thank you for taking the time to teach this class. Sincerely, Michael

A COLOR ON UN

WOW! I can't believe it's the beginning of my 19th year with Little Lambs Prison Ministry. Time flies when you are being so blessed by thousands of inmates and being able to work alongside so many wonderful Christian volunteers.

I have been in prison ministry since 1988 in West Palm Beach where a group of Christian churches formed Matthew 25 Prison Ministry.

Then after moving to Memphis, Tn., in 1990 with Kiros and the Shelby County Jail Women's Division.

We retired and moved to Sebring in February of

Dear Mr. And Mrs. Sala.

I would like to thank you for holding my Bible Study for me. I really appreciate it. Since my release from prison in December, I have struggled a lot. I was living under a bridge with only a quilt. I go to a place called Good News at noon where they feed you twice a day and have church services 7 days a week. I sleep in a truck at night, but I stay warm. God is answering my prayers. I found out today that I got my old job back at a Tire Center I used to work at 7 years ago. God is good. I also have a girlfriend who is really a church-going lady. She is 61 years old, does no drugs or alcohol and loves the Lord. I'm ready for my next study so I can continue my studies with the Lord. Continue to pray for me as my struggles continue. Have a blessed day. Your Brother Steve, Ga

1996 and for two years I searched for a prison ministry. While standing in line at Homer's one Sunday I spoke to a lady about this and she said they had John and Eileen Sala Ministry speak at their church. She gave me their phone number and I called them to speak at our Joy Club (Just Older Youth) at Sebring Christian Church. They spoke to us at Homer's in March of 1998 and at this meeting Betty Platt and I became volunteers and the rest is history. Since then many of our precious volunteers have gone home to be with the Lord and others

unable to continue. Each one a blessing to Little Lambs in so many ways. And what can you say about John and Eileen PRECIOUS, God's precious servants. And to you our supporters, we are blessed beyond our wildest dreams by you all!!

I want to thank Little Lambs for allowing me to be blessed beyond measure for 18 years. Jan Ryan



Dear Partners,

It's been an early spring, really not winter at all! And We have been busy! We are excited to see that Hogar Resa, under the direction of Carmelo Ruiz and his wife Maria, is very diligently working on a home to house and treat women with substance abuse problems. This home is located in Avon Park near the downtown lake. It has been totally renovated with the labor of Bro. Ruiz and the men of the Hogar Resa Drug Treatment program. As you can see they excitedly shared the plans and gave Willie and I a tour of the facility. The facility will be led by Maria Ruiz and Carmen Lebron, wife of Pastor Eduardo Lebron, the two ladies with Willie and I. They have yet to fence in the yard and complete the exterior decks or terraces and landscaping. It is expected that they will soon be ready for occupancy and have so many inquiries as they go about the state selling flans. Many people they meet often ask, " Do you have a place for women?" Now they can answer "Yes!" We continue to house 15 to 17 men at the facility in Sebring and Willie has two sessions a week with the men. They continue to look for a place to hold Sunday services for the 70 or so men in the program. If you have any suggestions, please call me (863-273-7388). On, February 10, the Hubbells and I were so blessed to attend the wedding of Eric Soto in Wauchula. Eric Soto started his program at the Sebring house and was very ill. He has since recovered and graduated the program and is now the Administrative Director based the Avon Park Hogar Resa. He is a tremendous blessing to the program and we are so proud of his hard work and diligence and congratulate him as he heads to the future with his new wife.



Schedule February 2017 Mon...Bible Study, Phil Esposito **a**Avon Park Prison Mon...Overcomers, Willie @ Hogar Resa Tues ... Overcomers, Willie @ Avon Park Prison Tues... Marriage, Family & Parenting, Eileen @ Avon Park Prison Wed...... Overcomers, Jeff S. 6 pm (a) Bible Fellowship Church Wed...... Anger Management & Biblical Boundaries 7 pm (a) First Presbyterian Church Thurs.....Overcomers, Willie Hubbell (a) Hogar Resa Thurs... Codependent Recovery Women, 6:30 pm Mary Tinberg @ Little Lambs

> Anger Management/Parenting Call 273-7388 for appt to register

This being the time of the year that Missions are spotlighted, Jan and I were blessed to speak to the Missions Banquet at First Assembly of God in Sebring in February. Pastors Trent and Charissa Morgan are new pastors at First Assembly and it was their first experience with Little Lambs although we have been a part of their missions since 1999 or so. We have also had many volunteers from their congregation. Currently serving as our Wednesday mail couple are Bill and Bonnie Clemmons.

We found many old friends there.



We were also shared the ministry with The Way Church in Sebring last Sunday. Pastor John Nelson and his wife are also new to Little Lambs although The Way has been our partner since their beginning. We have several volunteers there too. It always feels like home, Little Lambs everywhere!

We also donated 2 cases of bibles to the Highlands Co. Jail but they continue to not allow bible studies. Your Servant Eileen

Little Lambs Inc is a 501[c][3] Not for Profit Organization– All Gifts are Tax Deductible March 2017 Page 4