

**Open My Eyes, Lord, and Let Me See Jesus** 

One of the most difficult time in ministry comes when seeing a life you've loved and invested in, fall short of the Glory of God for that person. People that come our way usually have lives that are actually at stake. We see some come right to the door which has the right answers behind it, but it is going to hurt and it is going to expose 'the you' that the million masks have been protecting and hiding for so very, very long. The years of addiction and acting out has been to medicate the pain associated with that. Yet here we are ready to go around the same mountain again which could bring so much more pain, humiliation, failure, rejection, arrests, problems, problems and more problems. Truly our heart breaks and so does the heart of God. He hears our silent tears as they hit the ground and knows this is the cost we must be willing to pay to be doing His will.

Look at the price He paid knowing He would be rejected and His healing would be refused out of our blind self centeredness. We must die, all of us that proclaim His name and all of me. We see the sub-normal Christian lives we live when our flesh rears its ugly head and controls our ways. It's hard to see 'real loss' close up, but God is able. We can only keep believing for God's best in others and those we love.

What potential do so many of the people we minister to have! Potential to be so much more than they are, and certainly more then they think they can be. We live in a society of death and darkness. It is a condition that grows on you, that can become your 'comfort zone'. Sometimes it takes a real shock to realize you're on the wrong road, headed for disaster, to be willing to do something different and change course. Nothing changes if nothing changes. We have choices, but sometimes our distorted thinking and crazy belief system can only see through the self-centered window of our mind and wounded soul. How do God's people help when you're are dealing with a 'John Sala type" who has always had to learn the hard way. The baseball bat type of awakening sometimes must be used. especially when we have the knowledge of His still small voice. Oh, but not us. No submission for us. No taking steps of faith into the darkness knowing that if we are following Jesus we should be right behind Him. How much darker does it have to be to trust, before we are gone forever—even death and hell itself for some. How much darker does it have to be before we hear the silent movement of His sandaled feet which may never be audible to us again. Our heartbreak will never equal that of our Savior and Lord who gave His all. He gave His whole life to be hung on a cross for all our sins. We will never experience that sacrifice, but there are times when it might feel that way. Please pray for Little Lambs as we continue to reach out and please pray for those who reach back and those who turn away. We appreciate you commitment to us more than you'll ever know. God bless you. We love you.

## THANK YOU: GOD BLESS! *To: Little Lambs*

Thank you Sala Ministry. Thank you. God bless you <u>ALL.</u>I received my free Bible of Graduation a couple of weeks now, but with all the events going on my days here at California Institute for Men, I didn't forget my favorite "Little Lambs".

It was so enjoyable doing your Bible Study courses. Now I'm currently doing "Leadership" Program here at CIM called "The Purpose Driven Life". It's a 40 day scripture reading, four of us together, STUDYING, READING AND GIVING OUR THOUGHTS TO EACH OTHER- SHARING God's Word daily from 7:15 to 7:45 everyday except Sunday in the day room. I'm enjoying being a part of a wonderful study program.

Well, much love, joy, Praises and wonderful time that I spent with Little Lambs has given me the courage to go on and continue

in God's Word. Much love, Stanley



Graduate letter translated by Evangline Johnson. In 2011, 1 found myself in prison, not knowing anyone. Eight months after being in prison I needed a Bible since I had nothing to read. One day a brother approached me and told me to ask for a Bible and we sent away for it. In 2 weeks an official told me I had a visitor. When the door to my cell was opened and they told me someone wanted to speak with me. Before this, I had become a card player to bet and using dominos to barter for food. But when I received the visit it was a white man with white hair, well dressed and he told me that He had found my name among some papers asking for a bible. The man was very kind with eyes full of light and he told me, I preach the Word of God and go to prisons in the state. I am going to ask, "Why do you want a Bible?" I answered "To know the path of God." And 'Why else?" I answered to know more about God". I don't know where those words came from nor did I understand. I only felt that my heart was beating because I wanted the Bible. This man told me he would return in 30 days. He returned in 60 days and asked what I had learned from the Bible. I told him much, but I am learning the truth because I wanted to know the truth. 3 months later I was moved to the second floor. Going there I felt fear for there was a smell of death. I felt a load on my back. When I was going I asked God to help me, to protect me, take me where there were brothers. To my surprise when I was going there was a Cuban brother already waiting for me. He asked my name and we were both named Tomas. "You have come to a good place he said. I preach in English but during these 3 months the Mexican brothers are there." At 3:30 pm the door was opened and I cam out with my Bible in my arms in shame for I hardly knew the Word. When I arrived at the tables there were 14 brothers and they said. "Welcome. We study the Word of God here. We are Christians and we are brothers." The service began and the preacher began reminding us when were walked drunk, with women, practicing sin. I was annoyed because I felt they were talking about me. But the following day they returned and asked for forgiveness and said they were not talking about me. Continued on page 4

John & Eileen Ministries, I truly, truly enjoyed the Bible Study, even though I felt they were too long. But as Christians we need to stay in the Word of God. I was and still am Blessed to come across scriptures that have played a vast role in my life. Many of which I marked to go back to and memorize. However, my time in those Bible Studies helped me focus, took me away from this place. Helped my concentration and developed my understanding more in the Lord. Plus, whoever was my mentor, they deserve the utmost respect in the Lord. I am thankful to have someone there to help, pray and encourage me in the Lord.

However, I'm always willing to read or study the Word of God because I only have abut 36 months before I go home and this time will be strictly with what God wants me to do. This concentration is something I longed for, that in the past I neglected to do. But now; I'm full steam ahead now. And while doing Bible studies that will help me strengthen myself in the ministry wants to use me outside. In which I know the Lord will use me for His Glory, that's been one of my greatest desires.

I just wanted to write and acknowledge you for helping, but I wanted to say this. You sent me my J. Sidlow Baxter, "Awake My Heart" devotion. That really made my day. I haven't given it a brake. It's been almost 20 years since I've had one. I extremely grateful. Plus, I have needed information, Christian information, and my mentor helped me. So all around you all were a true Blessing to me and I want to thank you for doing God's Will. Love, David FI.



Graduates Letter: Dear Salas Family,

I see that word Graduation... and I kind of feel like I must move on and not hear from you all. I don't want this! I mean not hearing from you all again.

I have grown, I have all your series and I have used them to certain individuals on certain topics such as prayer and fasting. I've seen many of them give up. The seed is taken away because of the desires to be in the world.

For me, walking with Jesus is the most important in my life. My Lord has kept me through and through. He has never failed me. He loves me as well as the Salas family.

I will keep in touch if this will be it with the Series. (a face with tears).

Blessed be the name of the Lord. His is our strong tower, the righteous run to Him and they are safe. Alleluia. This is not goodbye, farewell or nothing like that. I just want to say I love you guys and thanks for being my family. Write you soon. Sincerely, Jose CA.



## Graduate Thanks from Super Segregation in Ca. Prison Dear Eileen,

I thank the Almighty God and Savior for allowing me a great sinner to praise & worship Him before time on earth for me ends. There are no words to fully express how grateful I am because HE made Himself real to me and spared my soul from burning in Hell for eternity. How JESUS would empty Himself on that cross and die for me. I'll never know why HE would die for me. His LOVE is unexplainable, but more than REAL. But God, I know that by YOUR grace through Faith I'm saved. Alleluia, Glory Alleluia! I'm saved. PTL

I thank God for this beautiful ministry that gave me words of encouragement as they walked me through this study course. Knowing God's Word will never return back to Him VOID! So thanks a million to Ms. Eileen and the rest of Little Lambs Inc that surround you there. Thank you, thank you, Gracias!

I did receive that amazing Bible you gave me. I apologize for not even being able to afford the postage for the study course. it irks the heck out of me because we are not allowed by policy to even hustle for hygiene, but I do anyways. Although I have no outside help whatsoever, I keep myself in check most of the time because God's Word is alive and I'm learning to apply it to my daily walk so even though God knows my struggles He continues to teach me in ways only He can.. Also for placing you all in my life.

17 years into this sentence through it all I face the consequences, but that said, I can't complain. So I must to be grateful for so I praise God everyday. This bible you sent me is my second bible in Spanish. The first one is literally worn out. I shed floods of tears upon the pages and colored them all in red mostly through the Book of Psalms and I learned about King David and what he went through. How God set it all up so Jesus would come. Anyhow, the color red I stained my tears with on the pages of God's Word are to remind me of the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, my Redeemer shed for us all.

I know I should've been dead and gone long ago with no way out of Hell. In 1991, my 26 yr old brother was shot to death and basically died in my arms. Those gun shots would've been for me as well. Minutes before it happened we were talking and he told me that 'up until then he hadn't dug a hole he hadn't been able to get out of.' So we did the last dope we had then he was shot to death. He died without JESUS in his heart. I still remember his last struggle to breathe and it breaks me into a million pieces as I hear him in the back of my mind.

Today on Christian radio I hear the person who shot'em to death is still locked up is hoping to be paroled. I pray this person accepts JESUS in spirit and in truth because being born-again open's our eyes. And parole isn't all that much. Being Free in Christ is beyond and greater than anything in

this world. Greater than the Greatest is praising the True Living God and yearning million sot come and rejoice with us the Redeemed Children on earth. The True Family of God. Rest assured we'll know each other in heaven. Paul Tx.



*Continued page 2* On Wednesday I went to church. I said these people are crazy, dancing and crying.

Well, what is this and when the pastor says 'Yesterday the devil had a feast' –that was the feast of December 12—all the Catholics walked worshipping the image of the virgin, I became sad.

I began to study the Bible and little by little I liked it until one day at night I accepted Christ as my savior and I began to memorize choruses abut God and the following week I was singing with my brothers. I felt full of love. I had known the Savior. We grew to a total of 120 brothers in Christ on June 9, 2012. I was offered a sentence on May 25, 1999. I had asked God to not give me 99. My lawyer told me that they were giving me an offer if I would sign. I began to pray with pain in my heart and I told God that He do His will. I want to serve you where ever I go. I was given 30 years, 5 served. But then I was sent to Garza West. I arrived and raised up a group of brothers. God has blessed me with good brothers here for 2 years. I an now here in Amarillo with victory in Christ but the honor is God's. I thank my God that He is using me to preach the Word of God. I know God has a purpose for those who seek him. I am writing to let you know that the Bible has arrived and my diploma. I love the Bible. It is a marvelous gift. It gives me much help to prepare sermons. Daily at 5 pm we gather to preach the Word. I preach 3 days a week and another brother helps with the other 3 days. I also want to let you know that I am in charge of a bigger congregation that is called Ambassadors of Christ. We are getting souls, our task before God. Much love, Tomas Graduate

## Schedale Azgast 2017

Mon...Bible Study, Phil Esposito @Avon Park Prison Mon...Overcomers, Old Unit APCI Tues ..Overcomers, Willie @ Avon Park Prison Tues... Marriage, Family & Parenting, Eileen @ Avon Park Prison Tues...Purpose Driven Life Study @ Avon Park Prison with Pastor Joe Valentin, (Spanish) Wed...... Overcomers, Jeff S. 6 pm @ Bible Fellowship Church Wed.... Anger Management & Biblical Boundaries Out of session! Thurs... Codependent Recovery Women, 6:30 pm Mary Tinberg @ Little Lambs

Thurs...Marriage, Family & Parenting

## Dear Partners,

First, I want to offer my deepest apology for the wrong time on Jo Anier's funeral last month. I am sorry to cause the confusion for one of my beloved volunteers.

I know that everyone is praying for the people in Texas and I am going to recommend that you also donate to organizations like Samaritan Touch, which are already in Dallas waiting for the all clear to begin their work. 98% of their funds are used for their work with little or no overhead.

We have lots of students in Texas prisons. We ourselves will feel the effects of Storm Harvey as some very large prisons in Texas were evacuated. Our students will be in temporary locations for a time and may not be reassigned to the same units, depending on storm damage. We will have to trace our students and do lots of changes of address. Some or most will have had to leave their stuff and will lose their lessons. But praise God for the internet, where we can try to locate them