



# Little Lambs Inc

A John & Eileen Sala Prison Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>

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## SHEPHERDS

As I prepare for this newsletter, I go over recent letters from inmates to choose which to share with you. As I read them, so many of them, I am so awed, so impressed by God and His work of redeeming souls. They are lost and found in countless ways like the man in an isolation cell where someone had scratched our address on the wall! Or finding our literature thrown in a garbage can, or someone from home sent us an email and the inmate has no clue who that was but is very grateful, or very often, another inmate shared Christ with them.

God can pierce through any circumstance, any pain, any unbelief, any tragedy and bring His light, and love and mercy. Let's just say, we never know what to expect God will do! But we can't wait to hear about it.

In 1995, before I met John Sala, I bought a condo at Christian Retreat in Bradenton, FL, from an old saint. Included in the home was a painting—one that I loved dearly and now I understand to have been prophetic. It is a dark painting of a rather nondescript little shepherdess, kerchief and all, standing among a flock of rough dirty sheep. It was a foreshadowing of what my purpose in life would be in the Lord. Sort of an unknown shepherdess. I often wondered why I love solitude, but now I can understand that it is just part of being separated with the sheep. And remember, shepherds were the first to worship Jesus that first Christmas at the stable.

This picture clearly represents my mission, our mission, in Christ: simply to shepherd our lambs. I am grateful that the bible has examples of women taking care of sheep. These sheep in the picture are not clean and pretty sheep, nor are they in beautiful surroundings. In fact, it looks like winter in the picture. They are lambs that the Lord has chosen to rescue and add to His flock. But there stands the shepherdess ever watchful for them. There is no glamour, no fame, no riches, no lavish homes or churches. Just alone with the sheep, caring for them for the Master. Her role model is the Good Shepherd.

Since John is no longer with us the prophetic significance of this picture is even greater for me.. It is a woman alone, yet not alone. It hangs in my bedroom. It has been my privilege to lead Little Lambs these many years, working with all of our partners and volunteers. I like to think we are the best kept secret in town, but very well known in prisons and USA Post Offices! This portrait of our mission reminds me it's not about fame or fortune, but it is about His flock. It is not about pleasing man but God. And I see all of you, my staff, partners, graders, believers as being shepherds with me for this sometimes unruly flock.

As we celebrate another year in the Lord of grand, silent service, I am so indebted to all of you: our Board of Directors, our graders, all the volunteers, our prayer warriors. We are the Body of Christ serving our mission. I pray you are all so very blessed this Christmas and pray for the souls that will be won this next year through our witness, our own Little Lambs. God love you so much and so do I.



## A Blessed Christmas to All of You!

Little Lambs Inc is a 501(c)(3) Not for Profit Organization— All Gifts are Tax Deductible Dec 2018



The Testimony of David I was born in 1962, in a big New England Catholic family. I have 5 sisters and 1 brother. My father was an alcoholic. He never hit us or hurt us, but he was really never around much. We would all dress up nice and walk to church on Sundays. But every Monday through Saturday was terrible. The Sunday church routine was pretty much to put on a show for all to see. By age 11 to 12, I began smoking pot and drinking beer. I quit school in 10th grade, got my GED and joined the US Navy at age 17! It was basically a form of running away. I stayed in for 8 years however and was doing okay! But the Navy is also where I really "learned" to drink. After my discharge in 1988, I spent the next 25 years in a terrible revolving door of homelessness, alcoholism and incarcerations. Fast forward to 2011. I had recently been

released again from county jail directly into a homeless situation. I had 3 years of probation to comply with. I did not want to go back to drinking, knowing that it would lead me right back into jail. My Dad had gotten sober and talked a lot about God being in his life. One day, while walking the streets of my hometown on Cape Cod, Ma, I had a hard time with wanting to drink again. During this mental struggle, I finally "literally" called out to God (whom I did not really know yet) "Please give me some sign of what you want me to do. I don't want to drink and go to jail anymore!" This was on May 21, 2011. The very next day, while again walking aimlessly, I saw a news flash on a TV in a storefront. There was a terrible F5 tornado that ripped Joplin, Ms, in two! I went inside the store to listen to the alert. There was a family standing in front of their damaged home holding a sign that read... "we need an electrician." Well, I took this to be my "sign from God", as I am an electrician by trade, when not drinking. So I went to the Salvation Army, told them of my desire to go to Joplin so that I could help others. Long story short, I went to my mother's backyard shed and got my electrical tools, packed up my homeless campsite and took a one-way Greyhound bus, thanks to the Salvation Army, to arrive in Joplin on May 26, 2011. While pulling into the bus depot, I saw a nearby fire dept. That was my first stop. I went in and announced "I am an electrician from Cape Cod and I am here to help!" They directed me to a church who had a relief center up and running. It was noon time when I arrived at the church. They told me that all their vans head out at 7 am. But "what can we do for you?" I asked for some bottles of water and somewhere to take a shower. They directed me to another church down the road who had showers available. It was called "New Creation Church." When I came upon it's parking lot with my backpack and tools, there was a group of folks in a prayer circle out front. So I stood my ground waiting, not wanting to interrupt. One man saw me standing there and began waving me over. When I got to them he said, "Greetings, I am Pastor Cliff M, welcome to New Creation. Have you been affected by the tornado?"

I said, 'My name is (alias) and I am an electrician from Mass. I came here to help. What he said next changed my life. He looked around the group with this huge smile and said, "Friend, you have been sent here by God!" Wow, awesome. And I said, "Yes! I was!" Then told him my story. He told me how they had been praying to God for the help of an electrician. They had begun renovating basement classrooms into bunk rooms, laundry and showers to house tornado victims. They needed many new electrical circuits added. So I got to work! (Remember I was supposed to be on probation in Mass.) Again, long story short, I stayed in Joplin for 2 years. I became Born Again on April 2, 2013, through the work of the Holy Spirit and the guidance of Pastor Cliff. I was convicted of my old self ways, came to the foot of the cross in repentance and shortly there after told Pastor the truth about everything and that I basically took off from my legal responsibilities. So I turned myself in, hoping to clear up the wreckage of my past. I have been incarcerated ever since. I get out soon. However this is where my painful stuff happens. On Jan.5, 2017, I survived an attempted murder at the hands of other inmates, because I would carry my bible around with me each day. I was "stomped" into a coma with a serious skull fracture and a traumatic brain injury. My 8th cranial nerve pair (hearing nerve) had been severed and I had 7 facial fractures and a twice broken jaw. I woke up from my coma on Feb. 7th, my birthday, only to soon realize that I was now deaf. I have been in a Federal Medical Center since, 18 months.

But I have been truly blessed by God! When I awoke, there was a bible on the bedside table, open to Psalm 30 with verses 1,2,3 & 9 highlighted. "*I will extol thee, O Lord; for you hast lifted me up and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried unto thee and thou hast healed me. O Lord, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not got down to the pit. What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? Shall it declare thy truth?*" Someone had been praying over me! God had surely returned me from those who go down into the pit! And now He has placed a strong calling upon my heart. I am to be His good, fruit-bearing servant and witness to others who have also experienced traumas as well as other deaf people, sharing the powerful healing Word of God with them.

So my friends, that is my testimony. A sad note however, my parents are dead and I will once again be facing release into yet another homeless situation. I know that He causes all things to work together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose! I will continue to pray for His hedge of protection and ask to send someone in my path to help me or guide me. Thanks for what you do of me and others. Respectfully, David *We have sent David a list of shelters in his town to help him with release, even a Veterans shelter.*

**CHRISTMAS EVERY WEEK AS WE SEND OUT GRADUATION BIBLES!** I received your bible study course in the Fall of 2017. I had not been in prison long, only arriving in August. I wasn't sure how you knew I was there needing this course. I had spent the 8 months or so before in the county jail doing every Bible Study Mr. Ken G. was able to find for me. I ended up having to write to the World Bible School. I was baptized through the program they were doing with Teen Challenge. I started writing the chaplain in Wilkinson CCF about a discipleship program and that I believed I was being called. That possibly one day I could go and preach at my home church in north Mississippi. I went through the court appointed Alcohol and Drug course required and started becoming discouraged when I wasn't getting a response from the Chaplain. What I wasn't realizing was that God had already set me up with your Bible Course. My "pride" had started getting in the way and I was thinking I could "use" a little and go through these courses—no problem. Wrong! Big problem. I relapsed completely. I completed two of your first studies, no problem. Then I started the third and had trouble. I was falling away and on the fourth didn't even complete it. Well, it has been two years almost to the day that I was able to let Him have it all. He has taken away all my cravings, wants, and needs of those drugs. I'm asking for your forgiveness. I want to apologize to you. The love you put into the Little Lambs can't be duplicated. I want to complete your training course. I hope it isn't too late to catch up. I am sending the completed Lesson Four anyway. I would like to start again if necessary. It was no accident I received your course when I did. He makes no mistakes and all He sends out does not return empty. Thank you for the welcome you gave me into Little Lambs. I will always be in my heart. May God bless you all for your dedication. Love, Will, Miss.

David W. says: Hello! God bless you. I am writing you to share with you God is blessing me so greatly I am about to burst. He is teaching me about Forgiveness for myself, but also for people who have sinned against me. A major point He has taught me is to pray for God to forgive them because they need forgiveness just as much as I do. Since I have comprehended this by the Holy Spirit, the amount of wisdom God is blessing me with is so great I don't have the proper words to describe the changes that are going on inside me. There has been a peace that has happened inside my spirit. I feel like I am floating. Before I forget, the last bible study about the Ten Commandments was great. It really helped me to look at myself and how I view each one and how I conduct myself in life. I am sending you a gift of ten dollars out of love for you, and He will bless it many times over. Thank You!

#### My Covenant with Jesus

I surrender myself to the Lord. Coming just the way I am, submitting to Him all that I am To spend time with Him every day in prayer and devotions. Studying the Bible each day, reading and learning as much as I am able. Join a good church that preaches Jesus Christ as God's Son who sacrificed Himself for the whole world, being obedient, counting on the Lord to give me whatever I'll need to serve Him wherever I am. To talk to Him throughout my day, sharing the good news of the gospel and my testimony so others can see who He is and the miracle of change for someone like me who receives His free gift of salvation, to memorize scripture to help me throughout the day and to strengthen my faith and trust. To stand up for what's true and right in the Lord. First and foremost, Love the Lord, my God, with all my heart, soul, mind & strength and my neighbor as myself as He makes me able. Protect my heart and mind from the world my keeping myself separate as much as possible. To be focused on the things of the Lord, taking up my cross and following Jesus daily, following His path for me right to heaven. *Often, you wonder, do they really get it. It seems that this young lady does get it. Her understanding of her covenant with the Lord is admirable. We pray she persevere to the end, right to heaven. Perhaps we'll see her there.*

Dear Little Lambs, I have been in prison since 2007 and I would like to sign up for bible studies. My testimony is I was a lost kid in the streets. I started drugs at 11 yrs old and came to prison at 16 because I was lost. I am now not the lost kid anymore, but a man of God. I got my GED in here and I better my education each day. I am so much better at living now. I serve Christ and then others. I am on fire for God and I trust Him in everything. I believe we should read the bible, believe the bible, and live the bible. I am in a place that is like a zoo without a zoo keeper but I still spread the Gospel because that's just what the Holy Spirit leads me to do: always give praises and thanks to God. The main thing is to always walk in love. Joseph





Your partnership  
saves lives and souls.  
We love you.

Are you a Partner?  
Join with God in  
changing lives...  
Make an investment  
in the future of many  
souls.

**Support  
Little Lambs**



Dear Partners,

This year has sped past in record speed and Christmas is here. We are encouraged to report that Pastor Herb Long has volunteered to help us with the Overcomers Classes in the prison. We will introduce you to Pastor Long in January. This has been a very significant answer to prayer for us. The men have been waiting, even starting a waiting list, for the next classes. Since they have cancelled all the state classes, this is their only option. God is so good.

We will be graduating both of the Marriage and Family Classes in December, also. What has happened at the prison is a greater miracle. We have a new Acting Warden and he has transformed our experience of the past few years. At last, the inmates are fed earlier and in class on time and we are given extra time if we need it. The cooperation is on a level of 100+! We also have an Assistant Chaplain Bevis who can take care of any urgent needs. So we go into the holiday season with so much to be thankful for.

I was at the Hogar Thanksgiving celebration and met there a former member of Lambs and she is now, after 10 months in the program, supervisor of the women's house in Avon Park. We are so happy with her success. The Hogar Resa Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program is in dire need of a vehicle, any kind of vehicle, for it's Program Director to keep appointments etc. They work with the justice system in coastal counties which requires he travel often and he has no transportation. Please help us.

I am excited because by the next time I write you I will be grandmother the 9th time! I pray you all enjoy the most spiritual and blessed Christmas Season ever! We at Lambs are blessed so much by your love and support and prayers. And I can't express how grateful are the men and women who receive the help from your gifts. Jesus is our role model. I pray we all His loving shepherds.

## **Anger Management**

*Biblical Boundaries*

*New Class to be held on  
January 18, 19, 20, 2019*

**Enrollment begins  
January 2**

Appointment needed for enrollment  
Call 863-273-7388

## **Schedule December 2018**

**Mon...**Avon Park Prison Bible Study

**Tue...**Marriage & Family/Biblical  
Boundaries Avon Park Prison

**Wed...** Overcomers Bible Fellowship  
Church @ 6 pm

**Thurs..**Released to Love, Women  
Codependent Recovery @ 6:30 pm  
@ Little Lambs Inc

**Thurs...**Marriage & Family/Biblical  
Boundaries Avon Park Work Camp