



Little Lambs Inc

A John & Eileen Sala Prison Ministry

www.littlelambsinc.org

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FLORIDA PRISONS LOSE FUNDING FOR ALL INMATE PROGRAMS!

In April of this year, the Florida State Legislature passed a budget with a shortfall of \$28 million in prison funding. To resolve this issue, the Florida Department of Corrections is eliminating programs that prepare inmates for their exit into the community.

Lawmakers were warned that more money was needed to cover court-ordered healthcare services this year. The state of Florida is under three court orders to add nearly \$100 million in additional services for mentally ill inmates, disabled inmates and treatment for inmates with Hepatitis C. All of these lawsuits are caused by the chronic underfunding of the prison budget through the years. I can truly see the rise in healthcare costs as also having been necessary due to the huge rise in contraband and drug use in the prisons. This past year has seen a tremendous increase in Spice or K2 use which often necessitated the inmate being hospitalized and often being placed on meds as a result of the overdose and requiring more treatment throughout the prison stay.

To counter this vast increase in contraband, the prison is proposing a video visitation system through a J-pay program as well as a new visitation schedule. A family member can now purchase 15 minutes of video conversations for \$2.95 as often as they like. Currently, under the old system an inmate may have as much visitation as 12 hours a week, Saturday and Sunday, for personal visitation at the prison, while the new proposal would be two personal visits of two hours each every two weeks. The Department of Correction points out that it is because they have too few officers and too much in contraband such as cell phones, knives, and drugs found within the state's 50 prisons. The Florida Justice Institute data found an increase in contraband but concluded visitors were responsible for just 2.5% of banned items found in prisons.

The State of Florida houses 96,000 inmates, mostly males with a budget of about \$2.4 billion to operate 148 facilities, including 50 prisons, 35 work camps and 17 annexes. Sen. Jeff Brandes, chairman of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee states "What I've been trying to get across for the last two years is our current budget doesn't support 96,000 inmates and guards and healthcare. We budget for 86,000." Brandes says the budget problems "are only going to grow over time. I don't think anybody contemplated we could be cutting opioid treatment beds in an opioid crisis."

What is actually being cut: 33 community providers will have programs cut or eliminated—including a \$9.1 million or 40% reduction in mental health treatment, \$1.6 million cut from transitional housing services, \$7.6 million cut from substance abuse services, \$6 million for "therapeutic" treatment and \$2.3 million cut from re-entry centers that provide basic education. But even more important, **"the agency will also cut its chaplains and librarians, saving \$500,000."**(tampabay.com/florida-politics/buzz/2018/05/06/florida-prisons)

We have watched this play out in the prisons, while a guard told us he had not had a raise in 15 years. He was given a 3% raise some time back but it was taken back for the payment of health care. Needless to say, morale is low. We have lost two assistant chaplains this year thus far. I don't expect they will hire another.

This is why our programs are so important in the prisons. Our current programs offer so much for the average inmate, not just one getting ready to exit. It is conceivable that we may replace some of these programs that have been deleted. Please pray for the inmates and the staff as this situation plays out. Pray that not only will their budget be restored, but finances will be found to truly fund the system. Florida has 21,312,211 residents, one in every 213 people is incarcerated in state prison. We want them to exit prison first as a Christian, then as a good father, mother, son or daughter and neighbor. Write your congressman, lobby your representatives. Question those running for office if they support prison budget reform. Pray, Pray, Pray for them.

FAMILY MARRIAGE AND COUNSELING ESSAY

WHAT DID I LEARN IN THIS CLASS:

1. I learned that there was a lot of things pertaining to life that I was unaware of.
2. I really didn't know the full intent of love.
3. I wasn't the child that God intended for me.
That I need God, that I needed to accept God through Jesus Christ.
4. Once I obeyed those commands, I could start walking in the Holy Spirit Power.
5. I didn't obey my parents.
6. I did a lot of wrong that I had to repent of.
7. Denied anger is a source of depression.
8. I smoked marijuana and drank alcohol when I shouldn't have.
9. I was having sex when I wasn't even married with unmarried and married women. I could have been dead and in my grave.
10. I was burning out my brain.
11. I wasn't patient with other people.
12. I lacked fulfillment of my God-given responsibilities.
13. I showed anger when I shouldn't have.
14. I showed emotional abuse to my wife and children.
15. I thought that money made the home comfortable.
16. I didn't take the time to help my children do their homework. I let the responsibility on the children's teachers.
17. I didn't stop to ask the children how was their day was going.
18. I criticized my wife and children.
19. I never examined myself.
20. I did character assassination of adults.
21. I was in denial about a lot of things.
22. I learned about boundaries.
23. I learned what a healthy functional marriage is.
24. That I need to be faithful to God and then I would be faithful to the Body of Christ and my family also.
25. How to make family decisions.
26. How to pray for each other.
27. A good family provides a solid ground upon which one can know, love, feel, and decide and imagine.
28. Lives are precious.
29. How our brain cell communicate.
30. Duties that belong to both husband and wife.
31. Family rules.
32. How drugs effect our behavior.
33. Children's needs are endless in that the sense that they need their parents continually throughout childhood.
34. The child can be used as an enabler.
35. Co-dependency
36. I need the fullness of God in me. I need prayer, I need to be saved. I need to spend time alone with God.
37. Me and my wife need to spend time together one on one.

As a teacher, I am totally pleased that this young man grasped the material!

Dear John & Eileen, Hello, my name is Timothy, 51 years old, in Hobbs, NM. I've been given a sentence of 20 years for some stolen TV's and possession of some other stolen goods. I made a mistake and bought items and was arrested and sentenced for receiving and transferring. At first I felt like I had been given a super excessive penalty for my crimes. I look all around me and I see people in here doing less time for murder. But now I've come to realize that I am not in here for the things I have done. I am in here for the things God the Father is doing for me!



I know now that I am here to understand that Jesus came to earth to die for my salvation. What is half of 20 years which is 10 behind bars if I gained my salvation through this sentence? While I was on the streets I had turned away from God and My Lord Jesus Christ. I had fallen back into the world of sin. I was using drugs again. I had lost my job, I was going to casinos, chasing women, everything I knew already that was not my calling as a born again Christian. I know that God must love me because he had me incarcerated again to bring me back to him.

Now I am back with God and Jesus, my Lord and Savior. It is like a great weight lifted off my shoulders. I was suffering and trapped in my own prison of sin, even though I was free. Now that I find myself in prison, I am free of the slavery of sin. I have chosen to enter the Seminary program here at the Lea County Correctional Facility in New Mexico. There were only 30 slots available in the ministry program and I was one of the 30 selected. I have been blessed because I barely put in for the program this year and I made it. There have been many men waiting years to get in. I believe God has a plan for me!

I would like to say I was very impressed with your first Book 1 of the Little Lambs School of the Bible. I thank you and I thank God that he has put it in your hearts to help us that are in prison across America. It means much to us to have that correspondence and help understanding the Word of God. Timothy

***I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS,
ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.***

Dear John & Eileen, First off, God bless you!. Second, as you might remember when I first contacted you I was deceived by the Devil to believe that I was a transgender. In the last 9 months I have done a lot of soul searching and praying. On May 9th, I stopped my hormones and I have accepted that I am a man. I realized that by taking body altering meds (female hormones and male testosterone blockers) that I am telling God, "Nice building but it should be changed to look like this." I am a temple of God and I do not own or control it. I was bought by Jesus' blood. I am writing to request the bible study 1-1. God bless you, Tim.

I'm locked down 24 hrs a day, no rec call, nothing, but because of John's testimony I came to the Lord and through these lessons the Spirit is molding and shaping me into the person God needs me to be. You never thank the person, but the one empowering that person, "God" but I have to thank John for being obedient to the point where God used him to the point that he did. He willed to do God's will and these lessons will bring a lot of people to Christ or to maturity.

Dear Friends, Hello. I want to thank you for going through this journey with me. Thank you for the beautiful Bible you sent me.

I'm in prison for something I didn't do. I was set up. I have been in prison for 8 years now. My sentence is 29 to 59 years. My first three years I was mad at God and wondering why he placed me in prison for something I didn't do. The **fourth** year is when He came to me in a dream. In that vision, I saw a beautiful life. It was at that moment I turned my life over to God. The last four years have been **wonderful**. I now realize, God allowed me to come to prison, even though I didn't do anything wrong, so that I would find Him. I said I was innocent of the crime I was put in prison for, but I was not living a godly life. So I thank God everyday for bringing me to Him. And now that I found God, He is working on getting me out of prison. The victim of my crime has already talked to my lawyer and told my lawyer that he was brainwashed by her mother and grandmother to falsely accuse me. She told my lawyer she is waiting for the Pa. Statute of limitations on perjury is over. She is then going to go in front of the judge and tell the truth. My lawyer is working on seeing if he can do something now. If not I'll be free in 2022. until that day come, I'll just get closer to God. Michael, Pa

Boundaries....

I have learned a lot over the last six months of this class. I found out that I grew up in a dysfunctional family where I played the role of the clown. I learned about my addictions and how they controlled my mind, not only was I destroying myself but also delaying my brain from fully developing. Detachment was one of my favorite subjects of this class because there are so many times in my past I should have detached from the toxic lifestyle I was a part of but I never did. I have also found my relationship with the Lord was not where it should have been, but thanks to this class I have a much stronger relationship now. The most important thing I have gained from this experience is BOUNDARIES.... In all aspects of life you must have strong boundaries and not allow people or circumstances to affect them. I cannot wait to get out of here so I can put all the things I have learned into action. Thank you, Eileen

Dear Partners,

It's been a busy summer. I have just returned from a week with my two precious grandchildren in Portland, Or. We had a fun time. Alex Jr. is 2 and a half and J.T. is 10 months. Weather was beautiful in the 50's and 70's.

Here at home we have finished our courses at the prison, had our graduations and are planning our next session. As on the front cover, things have changed a lot in the prisons in Florida this year. I have just received an email from the chaplain asking for a syllabus of our Family and Marriage Class. The Education department is attempting to see if we can give extra credit to the inmates who graduate. This is a great thing because now they have fewer and fewer avenues to acquire any credit while incarcerated. Of course, this is great because it will cause many who are not looking for the Lord to find Him!! I am convinced this is the most important class before any man or woman exits prison to be reunited with family and society. What better than an inmate who is responsible! And who knows God!

Unfortunately for us, Willie Hubbell's move to Bradenton will soon be complete. He has taken a few months off from teaching in prison and at the Hogar as he makes this move. He has plans too, to help with the jail ministry at the Manatee County Jail. Actually, the Manatee County Jail was my first jail experience teaching there weekly for a time. I am so very grateful for Willie's spiritual gifts as he has ministered for Little Lambs. His love for the men, his devotion and his love for the Lord have blessed all these men. I will miss his fellowship in the gospel. He will try to come to minister weekly at Avon Park Prison making the trip during the day to give the Overcomers Addiction Recovery Class. This is so important now because the state's addiction treatment programs have been cancelled. Pray that Willie's schedule will permit this and that storms stay away from his traveling day!!

Again I want to thank Jan and all the volunteers who subbed for me while I was gone. Things go smoothly even when they don't go smoothly with these men and women. Please continue to pray for Patsy and Sandra as they continue treatment and Brother Joe Valentin for his back recovery.

We have heard from our friend Martha, who is exiting prison in September. After 10 years, Martha has decided to seek a degree in Paralegal Science in Orlando, FL. This is a great move for her as it will give her a good source of income and an opportunity to minister to women in a situation such as hers. We are proud of her spotless record while incarcerated despite the circumstances and being cut off from her family. She is a real testimony of the work of God in restoring a life in faith.

I am so happy to have been born in the greatest nation on earth! I pray for my country daily for the blessing of God to be upon her and the people who love her. Be blessed and enjoy our nation's birthday!

Much love, Eileen Sala

July SCHEDULE 2018

Mondays.... Bible Study, Avon Park Prison
Mondays... Overcomers, on hold
Tues & Thurs...Hogar Overcomers on hold
Tuesdays... Overcomers on hold
Tuesdays....Marriage, Family & Parenting,
Avon Park Prison
Wednesdays..Overcomers 6 pm
Bible Fellowship Church
Thursdays....Released to Love
Women's Codependent Recovery
6:30 pm upstairs @ Little Lambs
Call 273-7388 for free counseling

Happy Fourth of July!