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This old House

While we have been preoccupied with the Covid 19 virus, and sequestered separated from the world, we had lots of time to focus on our building! 2020 is a story about this old house! In 2003, when we moved from downtown to 710 S Eucalyptus St in Sebring, we had exactly only1 week to get this old 75 year old building ready to accommodate the ministry of Little Lambs. A large group of

volunteers came from the community to help us fix the building with paint, rewiring, repairs and other things needed to open. We moved in the last week in August, 2003. Through the years, our only update was the back deck in 2006 by volunteers and the front handicapped entrance compliments of Bill Daily along with new windows upstairs by Bill. Although we had re-roofed twice after major hurricanes, little else was done because of lack of finances. You can imagine, our building will soon be 100 years old and God forced us to take a long hard look at it during the pandemic.

It all started in February, 2020, when we discovered termites swarming in the building. Cox Pest Control tented the ministry before the pandemic. Then, once the lockdown started, we needed to repair our A/C and installed new technology called a Beme-halo especially to deal with the toner dust but it was recommended for virus, bacteria and allergies. It was recommended because we were handling mail from all over the infected USA. It has really improved our air quality.

In September, after the summer rains, we noted more leaking from the chimney which has been pulling away from the building since before our purchase. Now the gap was huge. I asked Aldo Guzman of the Hogar Resa for help and he sent me Keith Page from the Sebring Hogar because "he is a perfectionist and will do a great job." True to this, Keith has done a marvelous job. The chimney was removed with the help of a rented bucket from Home Depot, the wall repaired via siding from Bagwells tailored to our needs. The work started September 4 and continues. The inside wall was rebuilt and 2 windows replaced. The floor's many damaged areas were repaired or replaced, sanded twice, mudded in the holes, re-sanded and polyurethane finish applied. The main room has been painted with two coats and all trim and windows painted and re-caulked. The front door has also been replaced with a new threshold and frame. After Thanksgiving, Keith will replace the rotten porch front door with a composite door to avoid water damage. All new blinds were added and shutters removed. For once we have no air leaks, at least not that I am aware of!

Later, in checking and cleaning and re-caulking the windows in the building, we discovered a broken window under the window film in a group of 4 windows in an office. They were the old weighted windows and very, very leaky on west (hot) side of the house. Keith will replace these windows for us. The building has undergone a thorough cleaning and the remaining wood floor treated with a restoring polish to blend better with new floor. Everyone is soooo happy with their new surroundings! Our volunteers have endured poor conditions at times with absolutely no complaints. Now the bright new surroundings increase the pleasure and joy we feel through our time of ministry, not to mention the energy efficiency! We have rearranged the whole office for more efficient use of our space. We are so blessed that you have generously given for this ministry and we have tried to be good stewards of those funds.



Dear Little Lambs, I just wanted to send a letter of thanks to Little Lambs and to explain how much it has helped me in my spiritual walk. It's long and can be intense but so rewarding. I find that I'm more able to process what I'm studying due to having to write it out. That's very beneficial to me. Also, it gives me so much to look forward to in my everyday life. I like that you only use the KJV bible. I used to also not understand the importance of the Bible. I think I only have about one more study left with Little Lambs. It sure has been a blessing having those studies to look forward to. It has helped me more than you know. I

should go home from here right before Christmas. I'm excited to begin my new life in Christ. "It was good for me that I was afflicted that I learned his statutes." It was like when I hit the age of 40 I woke up. LOL. I'm grateful to "God that I didn't die in my sins and was saved from the wrath and torment of hell." I'm not sure if it's at all possible but I would love to receive John Sala's personal testimony. I heard he had a book? Thank you Little Lambs! Sincerely, Tracy *Of course we sent her a book!*

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sala, thanks again for helping me to understand <u>my</u> relationship with the Lord. I'm writing in hopes you will send me the copy of the book "I'm Not Coming Back" <u>please!</u> I'm not doing too good as far as finances are concerned so if you can send me a free copy that would be great. I'm also ready for the next Bible study and let me tell you I learned a lot from the first one and had a lot of fun doing it. I'm looking very forward to the next one as well as the rest of them. It is really awesome when God works in our lives, you know it was meant to be for me to happen and look into another inmates cell window and see him working on your studies. I'm all the way in Missouri in prison and your ministry found me and is touching my heart and my life. You all are doing God's work and I will say doing it very well!! Ok, till next time "God Bless You All". I love you very much and I'm glad we got the chance to bump heads in this busy world we live in! Duane Of course we sent him a book too. His enthusiasm is catching!

Dear Little Lambs, I pray that all is well with your ministry and that this man-made Destroyer - Covid 19- has passed over you and left you blessedly <u>without</u> it's evil contact. I pray for the health of many ministries in these trying times and hope that each one of them thrive despite the adversity and economic challenges faced by everyone sitting at home in fear instead of braving the wrongs of this world for the Glory of God.'

We are still on Lockdown and only get 2 hours out of our cell every other day and have not been allowed direct access to the sun in all that time. I'm used to worse due to being on different yards that forced me to live long term in the Special Housing Unit "AKA hole". But from what I've been hearing, many ministries are "locked in" almost as strictly as that enforced on us prisoners. Now our nation is truly a "prison nation", LOL. I pray that everything clears up soon. I actually pray to get this virus as it would grant me the blessing of dying faster than the slow torture of having none of the medications I need and the medical neglect they have shown me for the past five years and allow me to go to Jesus in less pain.. Again, thank you for an outstanding Bible study. I can't wait to se what the next one illuminates for me. Tom

<u>Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sala</u>, Thank your for the Beautiful Bible. I have just received it. It was a blessing studying God's word with you. It has really been a great inspiration and has made me look at my life in a new light. I have made a choice to live my life for Christ and to stay on the right path. Thank you for helping me in continuing on my journey in knowing and studying God's word. God bless and stay safe. Your brother in Christ, Joshua, AR.

<u>Dear John& Eileen.</u> Thank you for the Graduation Wonderful Study Bible. I can already tell you that I'm looking forward to spending many hours, days, months and years making wide and good use of it. But most of all I <u>desire</u> to use it to bless and enhance the lives of those that the Lord brings me into contact with on this journey. Thank you again and Happy Holidays to you and yours. Reginald, FL

<u>Little Lambs & Staff:</u> I have received the lovely Certificate and as well as the generously gifted Bible. Thank you all so very much for allowing my participation in the courses and the gift. I look forward to furthering my closeness and studies with our Lord and Savior. I shall enjoy using the New Study Bible in my future lessons and daily devotions. God bless you and my prayers remain of and with you all. Harry, Ga.

Little Lambs, From jump start, 2 Peter 1:21 "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost", I noticed what was going on here. I'm the student here, but it seems that this study is rigged. Somewhere along the line of going to a State Fair and wasting money to purchase tickets so you can play games at the fair. Not saying that I'm wasting money, because there's no currency while I'm detained. Well, there is, but it's far from being wasted while I'm here. It's my faith and this wonderful journey I'm on. What I'm getting at is this: as soon as I started the



study, I felt an awakening and almost all of my time while here is in the Book, writing verses to take back to the world for myself to refer to and my baby sister. Basically, if I'm not sleeping, I'm working in the Book and doing wonderful things while I'm here. I see what looks to me as mistakes put on purpose in this study for a very few to find? I'm 100% sure this is true. God is guiding me, so it's right. I've only done one study that I finished day before yesterday but it wasn't graded. I was bummed because I didn't have much else to do, then next day, here comes your study and I was happy again. I quit school in 8th grade because I didn't like recess! (Don't play games) Since I started Little Lambs study, I feel like I'm in pre-k and actually happy to be doing it. Seriously, it is bringing me lots of joy and I'm 39 years old. Something I'm doing for the guys in my dorm is sending out for studies when I send for mine. Some don't have the money to purchase the resources to do so, so I do that and buy postage when I can to help them. You guys sent some to them from my request. Thank you. I do have a problem here though. I'm the only one with a KJV Bible to do the studies. I have other Bibles, but not the KJV and I value my personal BIBLE with pride and won't share that. It's like a toothbrush. Just something I can't do. Sorry! Anyway we don't have access to books here, the chaplain doesn't come with the virus going on, so these others are screwed. Not all doom though, as I'm doing my study, I'm writing out every verse needed on your study so these boys can do theirs. Guess that's more work from God for me to do while I'm here. Not complaining either. I actually love to write so I'm doing that which I love, love getting the Word and by writing it all down, I'm soaking it all in. 'back to being back in school, writing lines! It's calming to me. I guess what I'm asking if you can possibly send some books for me to hand out. It would be awesome. I'll keep them on my rack like the verses I've written out for this study and sign out like they are at the library. I'm just excited and my mind is all over with that I'm doing and where I'm going. Can't wait for my test score and next lesson. JT La. True to his work JT is a prolific write and we get many students and letters from him, all full of excitement for the Lord and his part in His plan.

Mr. & Mrs. Sala, thank you so very much for getting me on your list so soon. See I have finally found a relationship no one can ever take away from me. See, I've never had this kind of love in my life. It's the greatest feeling I have ever had. My testimony is a long one I pray everyday for my future to be very bright. That is what I look so forward to. My future with the Lord. I have committed myself to Him. It's great.

I have 21 months to do in prison. I've never been before. See I never was much on getting in trouble with the law. I really don't understand it myself. I just made some bad choices in life. I've searched my whole life and I have just now recently found what it was I was looking for all these years! Unconditional love! Since allowing Him to come into my life I have seen many changes take place. My hate has been turned to love, fears turned to trust, my loneliness turned into comfort and my hopes for a better life will be a reality. I sure was grateful to get that bible study first lesson and all the other stuff you sent. John's testimony was just so inspirational to me and my cellmates. I shared it with them. Again I'm so thankful for y'all. Please send me all you can. I am so spiritually lifted. One of your students I correspond with submitted your address to me. Greta

The Salas, Hello, since beginning your bible study program, I've learned a wealth of knowledge. I'm very thankful! I'm on my spiritual journey back toward God's gift of salvation. The wide path that I once traveled has narrowed considerably. I'm truly in your debt. I write today requesting a copy of the book, "I'm Not Coming Back", the John Sala Story. A recently released inmate, in a different cell block, told me of such a book that he read years ago, and noticed that I was participating in your program. Hopefully, he is right and your are the same John Sala, otherwise I have egg on my face. Thank you, go with God! William

This New House







Keith Page with Zack

New Work Area



Please Remember!
Changing things for eternity
With your Christmas giving!
Save a life, Save a soul!
Greatest words a Parent can
hear:

My son was lost, Now he is found! Dear Partners and Friends,

We want you to know that we have remained open throughout this crazy 2020. We moved upstairs during the renovation but everyone continued to work and grade lessons. We kept the mail moving throughout the pandemic and are committed to keep doing just that. It was quite a feat, running up and down the stairs for the volunteers.

Our next project is for our back deck. Our thanks to those of you who have helped us toward our goal of financing the deck with composite boards. In the center photo above are Keith Page and Zack from the Sebring Hogar moving a painting from upstairs to grace our main office. Zack did the repair on the roof and helped Keith. Keith will doing the deck with Zack between now and Christmas. We want to thank every one of you who contributed to financing and repairs as well as the deck. As usual, when we inspected carefully, we see so many areas in need of repair, like guttering, siding, painting. We hope to get to as many of these as we can.

The Avon Park Prison is open now to volunteers under controlled conditions. I would like to return to prison but I feel that would necessitate me quarantining after every visit. That would mean spending all my time in quarantine. Thus far we have been virus free even with our very vulnerable population and we want to keep it that way. Perhaps it is prudent to wait for a vaccine. We are blessed that mail has always been allowed and God is still working. Just today we received a letter saying, "When your 'Wish You a Jesus Filled Life' brochure and I crossed paths, I was called to read it. Jesus was calling me to read it. After reading your testimonies and obeying the 'Here's How To Pray to God' section, I have been Born Again! Who thought it would be this Awesome and easy!" You see, we are a blessed people to touch people we never know we touched unless they tell us. Christmas truly happens every day for us. God bless you all and have a very blessed Christmas. Much love,

Eileen Sala