

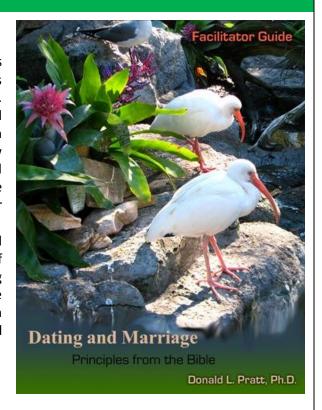
## January 2010 Newsletter

www.100hour.org

## **Dating and Marriage Unit added to the Integrity Curriculum**

**BRAND NEW!** Our Dating and Marriage unit is finally here. It was enthusiastically received in our two pilot programs. The groups were mixed with single, married, and male and female participants. Even the singles wanted to hear what the experienced marrieds had to say. The curriculum was specifically written for our clients in today's generation. Comments received included "I didn't know that a church wedding was possible for me" and "I never had a good role model to guide me before". As a result of our program, some class members "kicked out" their live-in boyfriends, waiting for marriage. The emphasis is on commitment and love.

Dating and Marriage-Principles from the Bible is both biblical and practical. It shows what real love is and the joys and security of commitment. It comes with a group member guide and matching facilitator guide. The facilitator guide contains everything that the group member guide does, page by page and word for word. In addition, it has facilitator notes, suggested class responses, and answers to the guizzes.



## **Changes to the Integrity Curriculum.**

The new Curriculum has two changes:

- 1. Dad's Coaching Clinic and Parenting from the Heart will no longer available from FIT beginning March 1. Instead, we will still offer the Parenting 101 and Godly Parenting options.
- 2. Dating and Marriage will be part of the new Relationships section along with Loss and Grief (Handling Loss and Grief)

Integrity "100 Hour" Curriculum				
Units making up the Integrity Curriculum	110013 01 20330113		Lessons	<u>Hours</u>
PARENTING			5-18	10-36
Parenting 101	5	10		
Godly Parenting	13	26		
PERSONAL INSIGHT			9	18
FREE TO GROW			12	24
ANGER MANAGEMENT			9	18
RELATIONSHIPS			9-18	18-36
Dating and Marriage	9	18		
Loss and Grief	9	18		
FINANCIAL RECOVERY			7	14

## Welcome to the New Year! A Message from President Don Pratt - New Challenges and Opportunities

This is a difficult time for nonprofits and Christian ministries. The downturn in the economy has reduced funds for everyone, and ministries like ours are to the first to be cut. There are other factors which do not win us any popularity prizes. We do not reach large numbers of people. Our program requires much time and sacrifice, and our materials are not the cheapest we could find. We struggle to get into the facilities where we want to work. Many ministries like ours are seen as "competition" and do not even attempt to work with us. Working across denominational lines is another challenge. "Bigger" and "more successful" seem to be the things that everyone is scrambling for.

Somewhere in all this zeal and activity, focus has been lost. We exist to service our clients. It really does not matter how much it costs us, how hard it is to do or to get set up. It does not even mean anything if we are snubbed or go unrecognized within our own church communities. What we can say, though, is that we have seen powerful changes through Christ in the lives of the small groups of people that we work with. We would rather help a small number in a big way rather than make a big splash with numbers in superficial ways.

Let's get back to our obstacles with an event that happened over a year ago. We lost our main source of funding, and we could no longer provide our books to the inmates and clients. We tried different coping strategies such as teaching without our curriculum books. Classes dropped to 10% because we found that the books, which our clients cannot afford, are the key to success in our program. They provide structure, focus, and a comprehensive plan for the bettering the lives of the broken hearted and downtrodden.

Then some wonderful things started happening. Some of our dedicated facilitators began purchasing books for their own classes (about \$150), and the classes went on. We started asking more for donations, and more of them came in. We held our first fundraiser in October and raised \$3,000. Since then, more donations have come in as a result of that effort. Interest in our leading training has steadily grown. This month, for example, we have leader training sessions in Providence, Rhode Island and Brooksville, Florida. Next month we will have two more, one in Bradenton and one in Miami. Every month someone new finds us on the web and contacts us for materials. They are from all over the U.S. and represent various denominations. Some even come for leader training.

That brings us to the present. There are many opportunities and challenges. We need prayer for leaders to work our curriculum as well as favor to be allowed into the facilities where we could minister. We need funds, especially for books and our printed certificate and tracking services. Specifically, we have an immediate need for male volunteers for the **Sarasota County Jail, Zephr Hills Correctional Institution** (20 minutes north of Tampa), and the **Sumter Correctional Institution** (one hour north of Tampa). We already have the approval and the clients. We just need volunteers who will take the FIT training. Call the office immediately at 941-739-1338 for details. This is a rare opportunity where the institution is inviting us in.

In spite of the obstacles, there are many rewards, and the rewards are deep and satisfying. By "staying with" our clients and being patient, we see them blossom right in front of our eyes. We were there for them when they needed us.

Thank you for taking the time to keep up to date with what we are doing and partnering with us. If you cannot do anything else but pray or give financially, it is all appreciated. For specific things to pray about, email me at <a href="mailto:don@100hour.org">don@100hour.org</a>. You may donate online for any whole dollar amount at <a href="www.100hour.org">www.100hour.org</a>. Sincerely and your partner in this wonderful ministry.

Don Pratt, President