



July 2014 Newsletter

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“Do Something”

Dr. Pratt,

I was listening to Moody Radio (91.1FM) on my way into work, and they played a song by Matthew West called ‘Do Something’. The song talks about a man who was very frustrated and upset with God that this world has gone so far downhill, and why doesn’t God ‘do something’ and God replied “I did, I created you!” At the end of the song, the DJ said how much he liked that song, and that we should all ‘do something’ and invited listeners that ‘do something’ to call in and share. So, I called in, told them that my husband & I did prison ministry. He asked what lead or prompted me to do that kind of ministry, and I told him “My husband, Dale. He had been looking for a ministry to become involved in, and saw the FIT webpage and encouraged me to join it with him. It was definitely outside of my comfort zone, but he knew I would be good at it” I spoke for what seemed like 5 minutes about F.I.T -- about who we are, where we go, that we teach biblically based life skills classes to the incarcerated, etc. The best part was at the end when he asked how any of the other listeners that might be interested might in F.I.T. -- how can they get involved? Unfortunately I couldn’t remember if the website was .com or .org, and I didn’t want to send them on a wild goosechase, so I told them to search for Family Integrity Training, that we had training sessions several times a year, and we would love to have them join us!



Here is a link to the song “Do Something”: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0l2csO7_pOI

I’m so glad I was listening at the right time! God is good!! I thought this might be an encouragement to others, especially other facilitators to reach out and encourage people who they think would be good fit (no pun intended) for FIT – even if it’s outside of their comfort zone!

Have a wonderful day, Sharon Guedry

FIT flexible in its Community-Based Operations

Nearly all FIT-facilitated classes are conducted in settings where the host invites us in and specifies which courses they will or not let us do and the order in which they want them. In some cases, they already have something in place but need one of our areas to fill in. FIT’s Character Development centers are no different. Most often, only certain courses will be approved and the approval process may take some time. The most commonly-approved course at present is *Anger Dynamics*, and second-most is *Parenting 101*. These courses are often used by family court for parents to regain custody of children.

It is not only the topic and order that has to be flexible. The time of day and length are also issues. The standard FIT course is two hours long. Host institutions have their own time requirements and our courses have to fit in. Courses have been as short as an hour and long as two. The complete life-skills program of six courses is sometimes done over a period of a year with one facilitator or in as short a time as one and a half months if classes meet every day.

Working with court-ordered presents additional restraints. Referrals may only come in one at a time and we do not have the resources to start a new class every time this happens. The classes tend to be small to start with. We handle this by letting people in any part of the course and then immediately restart the course.

Graduation Photos from Character Development - Bradenton

Graduation ceremonies are frequent because of the always-changing needs of the clients.

