



January 2015 Newsletter



FIT BOARD MEETS IN LAKELAND FOR QUARTER 1 MEETING

The FIT Board meets four times a year at various locations. The January meeting was at the Penninsular Florida District headquarters of the Assemblies of God. Other locations scheduled for meetings include Brooksville, FL; Santa Rosa Beach, FL; and Bradenton, FL. In lieu of annual business meetings, members are invited to any and all board meetings and are especially encouraged to do so if desiring to be considered as a potential board member. Currently, there are fourteen members serving on the FIT Board.

FIT relies heavily on board members for support and operation. It only took in \$28,000 last year to run the equivalent of a \$250,000 operation. The only way this could be done was by the dedication of all of our leaders, who work for free and the help of the individuals and churches who help us. The board members pictured here are an example in point. Board members pay dues like everyone else, personally fund about ten percent of the FIT operation, and work to get churches and other organizations to support us.

Standing in the back row in the middle is Pastor Don Carter, FIT Vice President. Not only did his church provide \$5,800 in funding last year, it has signed a five-year lease with FIT for \$1 per year for the office suite that FIT uses. The church provides utilities, furniture, and internet service. -over-

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Standing in the back row on the right is Ed White, the founder of FIT. The whole ministry grew out of his office and a dream he had of getting a program like this into every prison and jail. On the back and left is Fred DeMouey, FIT Treasurer; and in front of him is FIT President, Don Pratt. These three have been with the organization since the beginning. Dr. Pratt is the primary author of several FIT course books: *Practical Parenting, Dating and Marriage, Financial Success from Scratch, and Anger Dynamics*.

The next board meeting dates are: Thursday, April 9, Brooksville; Thursday, July 23, Bradenton; and Thursday, October 8, Santa Rosa Beach.

FIT FACILITATORS NEEDED IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Board Member Ted Gaines is in need of facilitators to help him service the Charlotte Correctional Institution, Punta Gorda and the DeSoto Correctional Institution in Arcadia. Interested persons can contact the office at 941.799.4975 or contact Ted by email at mityrod@gmail.com. Next FIT training is February 7, Bradenton.

SIX NEW MINI-PLAYS TO BE ADDED TO THE *DATING AND MARRIAGE* BOOK

The Dating and Marriage book is being updated to include six new role plays to supplement the lessons. Here is the first one:

Role Play 1 – Queen Esther Maneuver

Preparation: Read the Book of Esther.

Scene 1 Justin and Courtney in a non-stressful moment

Justin and Courtney want a close and secure relationship. Justin tells Courtney that he loves her and cares about her thoughts.

Justin: (gently placing his hands on both of Courtney's shoulders and looking into her eyes) "Courtney, I love you and care about you. If I ever become distant and you want to talk, please know that I still care and I want you to remind me of this talk. If necessary, you have permission to get my attention by taking me by the shoulders and asking me to look in your eyes. Good communications between us is very important to me."

Scene 2 The stressful moment arrives

Courtney wants to talk, but Justin has been putting her off lately and not really listening to her. When he does listen, he goes through the motions but just grunts or says yes or no but does not really communicate at all. Now he is watching television and Courtney is frustrated and asks if they could talk. Justin ignores her. After about two requests, she takes both his shoulders in her hands and asks Justin to look into her eyes. He continues, distracted in his own thoughts. She does it another time, and he asks, "what are you doing?" She reminds him that she needs to talk and she is only doing what they had agreed to. Justin says, "I'm sorry, honey, I didn't realize that. Thanks for reminding me. Let's talk".

