

# August 2018 Newsletter

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#### **THE NEW BOOKS ARE IN!** (*Practical Parenting and Anger Dynamics*)



## In case you hadn't noticed,

FIT has been continually upgrading and improving its course books, one by one, over the past three years. All of them are now professionally printed with "perfect bindings" and relevant to our times and audience.

The newest revisions, *Practical Parenting* and *Anger Dynamics*, were released just this last month. Both books have been streamlined and reformatted to be more useful and user-friendly. As with all our books, they

address specific life-skill areas

"developing life skills through faith"

that are known to be key in the lives of our clients and the world they live in. Where there is common ground, the books emphasize growth in good citizenship and as a good Christian.

Because of the changes, facilitators should make sure that they order a new facilitator book when ordering the group guides.



**Practical Parenting** 

*Practical Parenting* has a new cover. The book has been simplified but still contains the individual development plans that government and social service agencies expect. This course is often used for case plans to retain and regain custody of children and is the second most likely course in the FIT curriculum to be approved by agencies for sentencing and case management. This makes it an ideal choice for jails, prisons, recovery houses, pregnancy centers where the FIT program is welcome.

Here is a recent note about the course from Takeevia Martin, one of our new facilitators working at the Alachua County Jail in Gainesville, FL:

Good Morning, I would like to report the success of today's lesson involving parenting with the males at our facility. During group today I was simply astonished at how the group led itself with each discussion question. It was beautiful to see how each question caused each individual to completely open up, and share what is inside their heart without hesitation along with others providing wisdom to each other.



## The cover of Anger Dynamics

hasn't changed, but the main text has. It is now easier to read and use. This book is consistently the most widely used course book in the FIT overall program. It is also the most likely one to be approved by government agencies where clients voluntarily choose a faith-based approach. To qualify, the provider has to show that in addition to the faith content, the course must also serve a "secular purpose". This means that the content must address issues common in society with best practices as well as address the spiritual needs. *Anger Dynamics* does both.

**NOTE FROM DIRECTOR SHARON HODGES** of the Lydia House Transitional Home for Women in Orlando, FL. They work closely with the local jail in making sure that inmates about to be released have a good and wholesome transition back into society. "LOVED the (Dating and Marriage) course! We started *Anger Dynamics* today and it's going to be super, too. Thank you."

FIVE TRAINED IN BRADENTON, FL Five people completed the FIT Training Course on August 4th. From left to right, the two gentlemen on the left are from Lakeland, FL, the lady in the middle is from Ocala, FL and the couple on the right are from Gainesville, FL. Co-trainer John Ringleb is standing in the back. The ministries represented were the Dream Center, Lakeland; Nicole House of Hope, Gainesville; and the Florida Department of Corrections Women's Reception Center, Ocala, FL



#### 17 State Prison Inmates Approved as Peer Facilitators

The FIT Board of Directors have approved 17 state inmates this year as "Peer Facilitators", bringing the total to 43. Peer facilitators conduct classes to other inmates within the prison system. This setup allows more classes to be taught and at times when volunteers are not permitted to be present. Using inmates to teach courses to other inmates is not new to the prison system. Recognition by FIT requires the applicant to first complete the entire program as a participant, be trained as a facilitator by a certified FIT trainer, obtain endorsement of the local prison authorities, and be approved by the FIT board. Since peer facilitators generate many classes and have all supplied materials for free, the cost of this worthwhile ministry continues to grow. Please consider a gift of support at www.familyintegrity.org