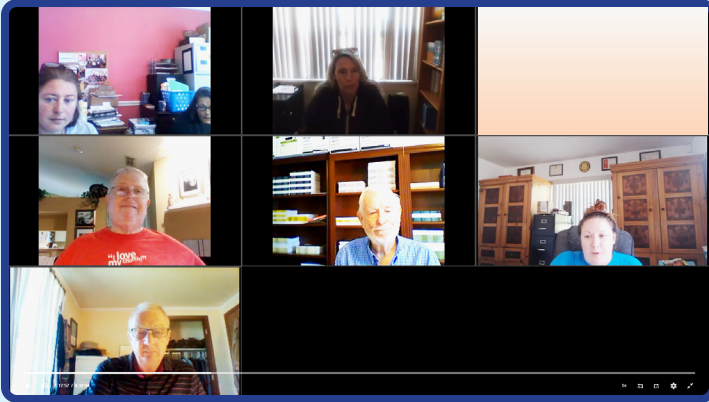


## NEW! FIT Leader Training Classes are now online

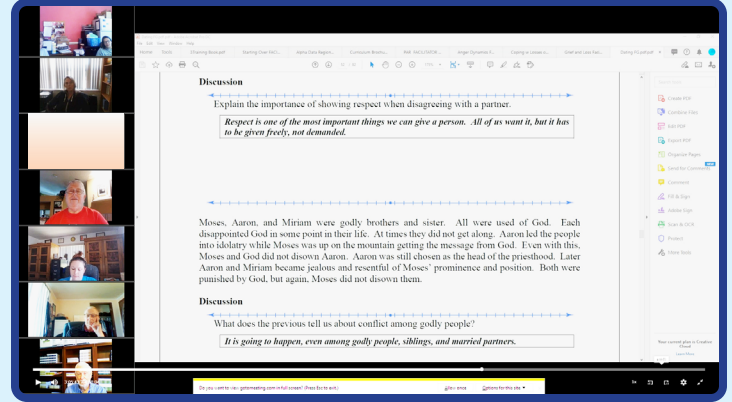


On May 2, FIT conducted its first all-online training session with trainers Don Pratt (center, blue shirt), and John Ringleb, (left, middle row). Don used the office computer at the FIT office in Bradenton, FL and John was at home in Lakeland, FL.

Two of the trainees joined via their computer at the Learn to Fish Women's Recovery Center in Bradenton where they will be facilitating FIT classes. They are Tiffany Kimmerer and Riqui Wilker (top left),

Three were at their separate computers at the Path of Citrus County Rescue Mission, Beverly Hills, FL. They are Program Director, Nicole Carley (top center), Amber Hoffman (not shown), and Kaitlyn Palmer (middle right).

Last, but not least, Tony Burkeybyle (bottom left) joined from his home in Terre Haute, IN. Tony is seeking to take our program into the federal prison there and a nearby county jail where our facilitator, Patricia Carnahan has been ministering. Tony also conducts Living Free classes and training sessions. We have no problem with that as five of our eight courses are already Living Free courses and he can represent both organizations!



### Corona-19 Pandemic forces Online Only

All training sessions will now be conducted online until further notice due to the current pandemic.

This should not be a problem. In fact, there are many advantages of such an arrangement, and some of them are big. Here are some of them:

1. Participants can get their training from anywhere in the world without leaving home.
2. We can simulate group discussion with screen sharing where all can see the displayed documents and react to them.
3. There is no extra charge for this service. You don't have to buy anything. We use GoToMeeting where we give you a code to join. You can join by using any computer with a built-in or external web cam or any iPhone or Android smart phone.
4. This opens the possibility of using multiple staff trainers. In the past, trainers had to travel hundreds of miles at their own expense. Now they don't have to.
5. Trainees do not have a problem of social distancing. They can join from home if they wish.

# THANK YOU!

## Spring Fundraisers Raised \$12,230 of our \$16,000 Goal

We say "Spring Fundraisers" because there were several going on at the same time.

### GIVING CHALLENGE

Our main event was the **Giving Challenge** which was held online and was a dollar-for-dollar match up to \$100. \$3,000 was raised this way with \$1,500 of this coming from matching funds.

FIT has been using the Giving Challenge for some years now with mixed results. Many of our contributors are older and are leery of the internet or by giving in this way. Theoretically, this would be our best course because our ministries are so spread out and our supporters can conveniently give from any location.

Some of the Giving Challenge organizations raised hundreds of thousands of dollars but they were almost all local and locally focused. Popular causes were animal rescue, women's issues, human trafficking, and local schools and community centers.

Proceeds from the Giving Challenge will reach us about July 1.

### FACEBOOK FUNDRAISERS

Some of our passionate supporters set up personal Facebook fundraisers. These four fundraisers raised \$555. We will be receiving these funds in the near future.

### CASH DONATIONS

Some people just prefer to give the old-fashioned way. They send us a check.

We want to thank everyone for their gifts of any size. Your gift enables our facilitators all over to use our quality materials and program and more efficiently fulfill their missions. They are out there working hard, long hours with no recognition helping hurting people find hope, fulfillment and faith.

Giving Challenge	\$3,000
4 Facebook Fundraisers	\$555
Other Cash Donations	<u>\$8,675</u>
Total	\$12,230

Most of our clients are scattered all over in prisons, jails, and recovery houses, many of which are not really set up for rehabilitation. Secular and commercial programs often take up most of the time and space slots and we have to compete for what is left over.

Our 100 active facilitators donate their time and personal resources to reach these forgotten people. Sometimes they will travel 100 miles or more one way to teach a class only to be turned away because they were denied entrance due to a lock down. These facilitators keep coming back, though, because of the satisfaction of seeing the hope that their love and our courses bring to the many who are lost.

When someone is sent to prison, they often have no choice as to where they will be sent. It can be hundreds of miles from home and they may be shifted from prison to prison. People in jail or prison have great trust issues because of the people around them. Many do not get any visitors and have no family. Many of them do not want our services, but some do. Some find salvation there, both physically and spiritually, as they were hopelessly stuck in their addictions. That is why our facilitators keep going back.

If you have been considering supporting an organization like ours, please do. You can be assured that your money will be used very carefully to make the missions of our super-dedicated volunteers possible. Their efforts aren't news to most people but are to us. If you are a FIT facilitator and have a story to tell why you love our program, we would love to hear from you.