



January 2013 Newsletter

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1,000 AND COUNTING CELEBRATION

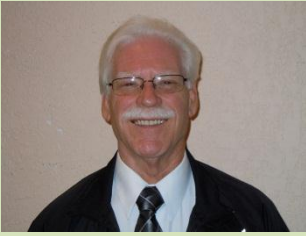
1,000 Course Graduations at Sarasota County Jail

5,962 graduations system-wide, 93,103 contact hours



FIT had a party to celebrate the 186 courses completed, 1,052 course graduates, and the 21 FIT facilitators who made it happen at the Sarasota County Jail in the last five years. The two gentlemen in the foreground, facing away, are indirectly or directly products of our ministry there. They are now facilitating the same Insight class that affected them so much. They are now our most active facilitators with the men at the Sarasota County Jail.

Paul Webster came to Christ as a result of his daughter's experience in Robin Rogari and Linda Coker's Insight class in 2008. By 2009 Melissa was co-facilitating the class with mentor Linda Coker and later facilitated on her own for a total of 12 courses until she went back to college. She is now a senior with a straight-A average and will graduate from the University of South Florida this semester.



Here is Paul Webster's story: Melissa gradually became addicted, just as described in the Insight course. Eventually, it came to take control of her life. She lost her job, home, car, became homeless, and was placed in jail for five months. FIT classes changed her life as the letters sent home changed from being negative to being positive. When she came home, she gave me her FIT books to read. The realization hit me: "Oh, my God, what have I done?" I not only hurt myself by my own addiction to alcohol, but I was a bad influence to others. I started attending Bible studies and began thinking about FIT and jail ministry. I made a list of 30 names of family who were prematurely dead because of their lifestyles. This included cousins, an uncle, a nephew, and a daughter-in-law. It was time to reach out to others to stop this destruction. Melissa and I took the FIT training in August of 2009 and announced our plans with FIT to our church. I am grateful for this opportunity and to see people being spiritually raised from the dead. God loves you and has a purpose for your life. – Paul Webster, January 20, 2013. [note: Paul has facilitated 18 courses since 2010 and 12 of them were the Insight course].

Joe Moore has also done well. He turned his life around and has been either facilitator on his own or co-facilitator with his former inmate partner in 16 courses since 2009. Joe is a member of the FIT Board of Directors.



COMPLETE A FIT LEADERSHIP COURSE. BECOME A PAID-UP FIT MEMBER FOR 1 YEAR

Active membership includes the following benefits: participation in the annual business meeting, FIT-supplied course materials as funds permit, and being a contributor to the mission of FIT. Membership requires completion of a membership application OR completing a Leadership Course. Dues are \$25 per year. Refresher courses are welcome. Leadership course trainings are listed below.

FIT TRAINING SESSIONS

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| BRADENTON, FL February 2, 2013 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM | Journey Assembly of God Administration Building, 5017 37th Street East, Bradenton, FL 34203 Lunch on own 12:01 - 1:00 PM (McDonald's and Recipe Box nearby at SR 70 and 33rd Street E. Contact Person: Don Pratt at 941.739.1338 941.739.1338 |
| PANAMA CITY, FL February 9, 2013 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM | Panama City Rescue Mission, 609 Allen Avenue, Panama City, FL 32402 Lunch provided. REGISTER EARLY. SPACE IS LIMITED. Contact Person: Joe Atkinson at 850.769.0783 850.769.0783 FREE or Beverly Shatterly at 910-368-7192 910-368-7192 |
| BRADENTON, FL May 4, 2013 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM | Journey Assembly of God Administration Building, 5017 37th Street East, Bradenton, FL 34203 Lunch on own 12:01 - 1:00 PM (McDonald's and Recipe Box nearby at SR 70 and 33rd Street East) Contact Person: Don Pratt at 941.739.1338 941.739.1338 |
| BRADENTON, FL August 3, 2013 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM | Journey Assembly of God Administration Building, 5017 37th Street East, Bradenton, FL 34203 Lunch on own 12:01 - 1:00 PM (McDonald's and Recipe Box nearby at SR 70 and 33rd Street East) Contact Person: Don Pratt at 941.739.1338 941.739.1338 |
| BRADENTON, FL November 2, 2013 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM | Journey Assembly of God Administration Building, 5017 37th Street East, Bradenton, FL 34203 Lunch on own 12:01 - 1:00 PM (McDonald's and Recipe Box nearby at SR 70 and 33rd Street East) Contact Person: Don Pratt at 941.739.1338 941.739.1338 |