

# THE PRESIDENT'S



# Circle

TRINITY COLLEGE OF FLORIDA

## ***You Must Do This ... at Christmas and All the Time!***

There are many things you must do this month ... give gifts, eat with the family (or at least FaceTime or Skype your family), send Christmas greetings, make phone calls, send texts or emails, and express your love to all your relatives and friends. We all have lists: places to go and things to do! They abound and are countless!

Yes, many have even planned for a church event or service. Singing, sharing, encouraging, helping, and serving must all be on the agenda. But there is something else that is indispensable and absolutely necessary. It cannot be overlooked, set aside, or put on a waiting list for later! It is imperative and A MUST! This must-do item appeared in the following verse recorded by Mark:

“And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.” *Mark 6:56 ESV*

Do you see it ... the “MUST” for you to do this Christmas and beyond? Above all your pursuits, plans and activities, **you must get to Jesus!** It is not just talking about Him, or thinking about Him ... **it is getting to Him!** What does that mean?

“... *And as many as touched it were made well.*” Let these words sink deep into your soul! We need to “touch Him.” How? How is this done now? It is simply accomplished by doing the following:

1. *Read about Him* in the Gospels. It is time to read and re-read about Him. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John contain volumes of information “totally inspired and accurate” for your personal consummation. And the Holy Spirit will light up the words for you with excitement and encouragement.
2. *Meditate on Him*, not just about Him. Focus your attention on Him, what He said, did, thought, and planned. Laser your thoughts and attention on Him and what He is doing. Watch His procedure and steps ... and take notes!
3. *Talk to Him*. Pray or converse with Him. Tell Him, praise Him, and Ask Him. One night recently, about 3:00 a.m., I woke up. This time, I simply prayed and praised Him. I told Him how thankful I am for Him. Immediately, these words flashed back to my mind: *Trustworthy and Dependable!* He clearly told me He is *trustworthy*. I can tell Him anything and He keeps secrets! I can confide in Him. *Dependable* was the other word ... He can be counted on. He will not forget or let me down on anything! Wow! I could hardly go back to sleep ... it took a while. At recent President’s Council and Board of Trustees meetings, I told the leaders: “We have His faithful presence and His focused attention! We are not left as ‘orphans!’ We are not alone!
4. *Serve with Him*. In many messages I have delivered, serving with Him comes to the surface in one way or another. You learn so much working and serving with someone else. Surveys have demonstrated this over and over ... the mentoring process. You may not know everything that is to be known, but simply start serving **with Him** in this world. I started with straightening up folding chairs and opening car doors at church.

**This Christmas: Get to Jesus!** There will be much 'doing, going, planning, and talking about Him!' But GET TO HIM! Everyone who does is transformed, encouraged, and healed in one way or another. He changes people ... and He will change YOU! Make this Christmas and New Year different ... **Get to Him!** He will bless you immensely! *You will be different!*

***The Latest Happenings:***

- ✦ **Faculty and Staff** served the student body a complimentary Thanksgiving meal. It was a time to rejoice, give thanks, and serve one another.



- ✦ Trustees had the opportunity of touring the new student residence hall when they gathered for the regular fall meeting on November 3.



*Board of Trustees November 3, 2017*





The dedication date for this new *state of the art* facility will be **April 27, 2018**. Mark your calendars! All resident students will be able to live on campus. This has been a dream of fifteen years in the making!

Something to think and pray about: Each room will cost \$3,500 to furnish, including two beds, dressers, refrigerator, internet, WiFi, and decorations. If you, your family, your organization, a group, or church would like to sponsor a room, it will be recognized by a plaque.

### **News to Use ...**

- The trustees will finalize the work of the mission statement for the College in January 2018.
- Members of the College administration attended a regional conference hosted by the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) for expanding the mission and vision of this accrediting organization. Approximately 15 of these meetings will be held throughout the United States prior to the February 2018 Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida.
- The College is completing work for authorization to offer online courses in most states throughout the United States.
- The Ladies Basketball season is underway, led by Coach Tom Clark.



- New marketing endeavors through the internet and radio have begun. Trinity College of Florida is celebrating 85 years of training men and women in higher Biblical education.
- The faculty and staff Christmas dinner will be Tuesday, December 5, 2017.
- Christmas break begins December 21. Staff will return to work on January 3, 2018.



### **Urgent Prayer Requests ...**

- **Pray for ongoing financial needs of the College.** God is the Great Provider. We live and work depending on Him. Operational needs and the finalization of funding for the new Student Residence Hall are current needs.
- **Pray for the ongoing Admissions efforts in the Traditional and Degree Completion Programs.**
- **Pray for the spiritual development of every student. Pray for the faculty and staff as they serve them.**
- **Pray for the new 2018 year ... a year for reflection and renewal.**

*Our heartbeat for Trinity College of Florida: "...and as God's grace reaches more and more people, there will be greater thanksgiving and God will receive more and more glory." 2 Corinthians 4:15 NLT*

## **A Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to You and Your Family!**

With much anticipation for what the Lord will be doing for you in the coming year,

