

# THE PRESIDENT'S



# Circle

TRINITY COLLEGE OF FLORIDA

## ***The Challenge Before Us:***

### ***We are in need of more Gershonites!***

You might say to yourself: "What in the world is a *Gershonite*? A very good question!

Allow me to navigate with you through Numbers 4 in the Old Testament. It is a chapter that contains the desires and directives of Almighty God to Moses and Aaron regarding the 'ministry of work' of the Tent of Meeting. Three family lines are mentioned with responsibilities assigned to them:

1. The Kohathites: 'The care of the most sacred things'
2. The Gershonites: 'The carrying of heavy loads'
3. The Merarites: 'The carrying of the framework of the Tent of Meeting'

There were 2,750 of the Kohathite clan, 2,630 of the Gershonite clan, and 3,200 of the Merarite clan to move the Tent of Meeting (8,580 in total from ages 30-50). Pretty exact accounting, don't you think?

But what caught my attention is the number for Gershonites, the lowest number. And then I found myself pausing at the following words: This '***...clan will serve by carrying heavy loads...***' (Numbers 4:24) Immediately, the Lord impressed me that He desires people '*to bear and carry heavy loads!*' Who wants to do that? However, the need is present, very present!

No one has to tell you the challenges that we as believers are facing in the church, community, and in the world at this present moment. These are 'challenging times!' Who is up to this? Who wants to 'carry a heavy load?' Who wants to bear the pressures and stresses of ministry, of service? People are saying to themselves, "I want an easy load, a light load, not a heavy one! I want relief! I do not want this responsibility! I am not up to it!"

My dear reader: ***God is calling out for people to carry heavy loads!*** Hopefully, there is a deep desire to do this, but HOW? How can I manage something like this? May I propose three secrets that will empower you to 'carry the heavy load?' You may have even been carrying this type of load at work, with family, at school, in relationships, demands, responsibilities, and you wonder, "*How can I continue?*" Let me share with you how:

1. **Spiritual Intimacy** is mandatory with the Almighty. One cannot afford to be at a distance, disconnected, or directed away from the first priority of pleasing Him. You will know if that is a problem. Being intimate with the Lord does not mean you have all disciplines of spiritual growth mastered. It does not mean you have mastered prayer, fasting, and extended sabbaticals. It *does* mean that in your heart, mind, and emotion, He is preeminent, *not just prominent*. It means you 'hunger' and 'thirst' after Him.
2. **Spiritual Insight** will come from spiritual intimacy. You will be given perception and wisdom on how to '*carry the heavy load.*' You will be blessed with 'secrets' of how to handle and navigate the challenges. The ideas will rush into your mind! My father had a weak back. I would always remind him and myself: 'Lift with your thighs!' There are *spiritual techniques* in handling heavy

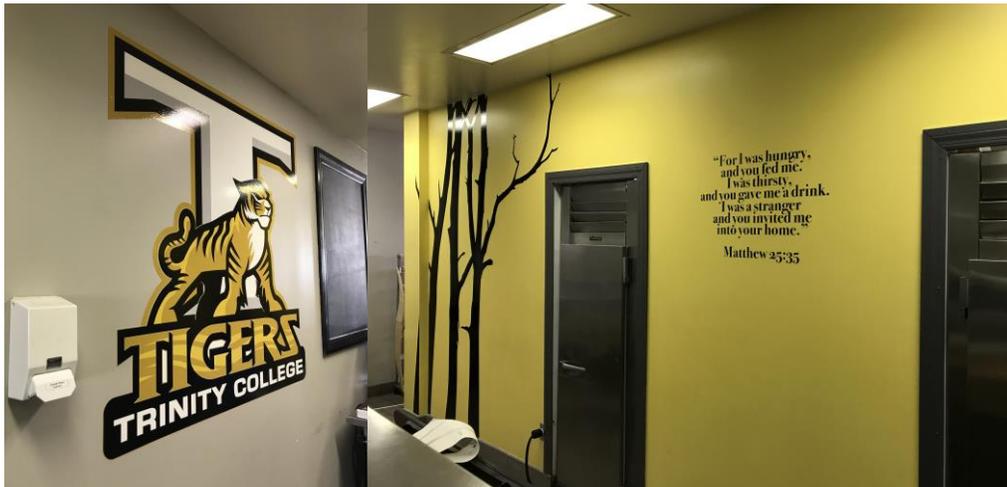
loads. God's people need to know these principles. However, they are only given through intimacy with the Almighty. The Holy Spirit will be the Giver of what you need to see and do!

3. **Spiritual Power** will be present to solve, carry, and handle the 'heavy load.' The 'supernatural lift' will be present. It will be given by Him and amaze you! A deep refreshing will cover you and you will experience a 'second wind.'

Are you signing up to be a *Gershonite*? I am! Let us do this together for the plan and glory of the Lord Jesus Christ! ***Someone needs your help as a heavy lifter!***

### **News to Use:**

- ✦ As preparations for a new year got underway, our dining services took the opportunity to bring a little "school spirit" into the décor of the serving area. In addition, the outside barbecue area is being cleared and new plants are in place.



- ✦ Our parking lot has been re-sealed and striped, courtesy of the President's Council. Before and after pictures are below.



- ✦ **We have walls!** On Thursday, August 16, fifteen 18-wheeler trucks arrived on campus with all the components of a 200-ton crane. Distinguished community leaders, President's Council members, trustees, faculty, staff, and students were present to see the first wall being lifted into place and the long awaited three-story Residence Hall begin to take shape. With the start-up of the fall classes, the current dormitory was full along with six apartments that had to be leased off-campus. The Trinity College family is looking forward with great anticipation to the new building that will house all resident students.



The College **will be 85 years old** September 20, 2017. What a special moment in the mission of this College! Throughout the 2017-2018 year, we will be celebrating this significant milestone in the life of the College. It will be a time to rejoice, to remember, to reflect, and to think of the history of this higher biblical institution that has, over the years, seen many outstanding servants of the King educated and prepared as they moved out into the world to begin their ministry.



- ✦ To kick off the new school year, the **2017 Convocation** service was held on Friday, August 25, 2017. The president presented the focus, the fuel, and the future of a Godly attitude.
- ✦ Dr. Timothy Beard, President of Pasco Hernando State College, challenged our faculty and staff at the **2017 Retreat** on Wednesday, August 9. It was hosted on the Eastlake campus of Calvary Church. It is our goal to be a “student-ready institution.” The theme of the retreat was “Moving Forward” based on Exodus 14.



- ✦ Following orientation for the new students, classes began August 21 on campus.



- ✦ Christian Schoen, grandson of **Ivan, class of '58, and Doris Schoen, class of '55**, is in the process of producing a documentary, "Cries of the Jungle," about his grandparents and their remarkable lives on the mission field in Suriname. Ivan and Doris lived and worked among the Wayana Indians as well as other tribes. Their ministry included the translation of scripture to the native language. Christian feels that it is important for the younger generation to hear and know about this amazing journey. We are helping him get the word out about the production of this outstanding documentary and how you may be able to help. Here are some of the links to this project:



<https://www.criesofthejungle.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/CriesoftheJungle/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IAe1qE7I2RI>

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

- ✦ **Pray for the safety of the construction crews** as they continue to build the three-story Residence Hall.
- ✦ **Pray for the new and returning students** as they begin a new chapter in their education.
- ✦ **Pray for the spiritual formation of all our students.**
- ✦ **Pray for the complete funding** of our new Residence Hall. **Pray for the students** who have continued financial needs. Pray that: 1) they will take what they need to the Lord, 2) they will be diligent in fulfilling their obligations, and 3) they will be surrounded by good mentors and adults to guide and assist.

"And I am sure that God who began the good work within you will keep right on helping you grow in his grace until His ***task within you is finally finished*** on that day when Jesus Christ returns."

Philippians 1:6 TLB

*To that end we labor for His Glory and Honor!*

Serving with you,

