

THE PRESIDENT'S



TRINITY COLLEGE OF FLORIDA

Flustered ... Frustrated ... Forgetful

Not at Christmas, Right?

Wrong! Unfortunately, today is a day of great frustration and fearfulness! So unfortunate! In the midst of great strides in technology, travel, and accessibility, people still forget and become flustered and frustrated at the smallest difficulty. Great promises and aspirations possess their dreams, but any difficulty or disturbance is unacceptable in life. As one person had remarked:

"Today is a day to 'get more, have more, and enjoy more.'"

Surely during the Christmas season, there must be a 'time out!' With all the things to do, experience, enjoy, or have, there must be a time when all is well and acceptable! Unfortunately, there is not or it is very limited! Once again there is within the human heart a throne for 'self.' When self is not honored, needs not met, and desires not achieved, stress along with the 'works of the flesh' arise in brilliant color and action.

Where do we go from here? *It is time to take personal inventory.* What is Christmas to me? What does it mean to me? What does it mean to others? What is it all about? Is it all about the purchase of gifts and time off? Have I missed something? Have I discovered the 'real meaning' and 'secret' of the **Gift that keeps on Giving?** It is time to pause, think, and observe my spiritual condition!

Allow the Sword of the Spirit to enlighten your heart and life once again:

"...that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God both of the Father and of Christ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Colossians 2:2-3 NKJV

"For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him who is the head of all principality and power." Colossians 2:9-10 NKJV

There is so much wealth to unpack in these verses ... incredible revelation, enlightenment, enrichment and encouragement for mankind. The Christmas Message of Matthew and Luke is found within these proclamations: *The Gift of Jesus to all who will receive.* In Him is found all treasures of wisdom and knowledge. In Him is found all the fullness of the Godhead in bodily form. In Him, everyone who believes is complete, encouraged, and possesses access to all riches of the full understanding! In Him is the ultimate power and authority. No one is stronger, better, wiser, richer, more understanding, and able to give and give and give than the Gift of a redeemer who continues to Give!

Gone will be the dominating forces of frustration and fearfulness! Gone will be the sense of hopelessness and defeat! We are "...*more than conquerors* through Him who loved us" (Romans 8:37 NKJV). We have won! How does that process for you? Positionally, it is done ... we are simply doing the 'mop up' campaign! We are *more than millionaires* in Christ! It is time to act and serve as children and servants of the Most High! This is the Christmas Message unwrapped: ***Infinite Love for the infinitely undeserving!*** And that will preach!

Merry Christmas! **Jesus, the Gift that continues to Give to one who receives!**

Did You Know ...

- ✦ The College provided a complimentary Turkey and Ham Dinner for all students and faculty in celebration of Thanksgiving.



- ✦ **Trinity College of Florida** is celebrating 85 years of Higher Biblical Education. To mark this moment in the history of the school, an 85th Birthday Celebration committee was formed under the leadership of Ed Allen, PhD, a member of the President's Council. Training and contacts were accomplished this year in explaining how the Lord has used this College for His Glory and inviting friends of the College, organizations, churches, alumni, businesses, and other entities to provide a 'birthday gift' to Trinity to assist in the following:
 1. *Life Change* Scholarships for students who cannot financially afford to attend. Upon completing their FASFA, a scholarship could be awarded after a student has utilized government funding and other gifts but continue to have financial need
 2. *Strengthening* our faculty & staff. Other faculty members are very qualified in their areas of expertise and we want to express our appreciation to them. Assisting our staff is another area to express thankfulness to them for their service to Him.
 3. Enhancing the ambiance of the College for student encouragement and learning. Landscaping, outdoor seating, and much more has been completed and are in the plans.

To date over \$230,000 has been given. Additional year-end gifts are anticipated. This is an excellent opportunity to bless His students with His provisions through your resourcing. On the college website www.trinitycollege.edu, there is a special 'GIVE' tab for you to click and make your contribution as He has led you. All types of gifts have been given from marking your age as 85 with an eighty-five dollar gift to a company gift of \$20,000. Thank you for your support this year.

Food for Thought ...

- ✦ **Chick-Fil-A** offered 20% of the proceeds of purchases by friends of the College from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at their Trinity, Florida location.
- ✦ **Watch** for Year-End announcements from the College via U.S. Mail and e-mail.
- ✦ **Approximately 80 attended** the Faculty and Staff Christmas Dinner at Fox Hollow Country Club. Music, fellowship, and an excellent message from Dr. Ken Whitten, lead pastor of Idlewild Baptist Church, were on the agenda. Several Trustees and President's Council members were present.
- ✦ **Paid Internships.** Opportunities are being offered to Trinity College of Florida students.
- ✦ **Dr. Charlie Martin** and his team along with friends and supporters of the College are working with Pasco County in acquiring a name change of the road in front of the school (Welbilt Blvd.) to the Billy Graham Parkway in honor of Dr. Billy Graham.
- ✦ In **Speer Hall**, rooms are being sponsored by interested churches, businesses, and individuals. It is \$3,500 per room with recognition provided on top of the doorway. The first floor common area has been sponsored by McNichols Company. If you have interest in naming opportunities, contact the President's office, bskinner@trinitycollege.edu. A room has recently been funded with recognition going to a faithful retired African missionary.

- ✦ **Christmas Break** for students begins December 13, 2018. Finals have been completed. Staff finishes December 21, 2018 and will return January 2, 2019.



Your Prayer Support is Needed ...

- ... For our three full-time recruiters: Giselle Rodriguez, David DeLisle, and John Keller. Part-time recruiter Charity Bell and student Sarah Pardue have also assisted. Pray that they will be at the right place at the right time for His student. Pray for their follow-up on each lead that has potential.
- ... For our Admissions Program Directors: Mrs. Rachel Noble and Dr. John Zuch, as they lead both the traditional and *Quest (degree completion)* programs respectively.
- ... For the continued Favor of God upon our Faculty, Staff, Trustees, President's Council, Alumni, Donors, and all supporters, and organizations in partnership with Trinity. ***His Favor brings Focus, Fire, and Funding!***
- ... For the necessary funding to enhance our software needs in admissions and other college functions.
- ... For Financial Aid: Director Sue Wayne along with her assistant, Amanda Longnecker.
- ... For the New Year 2019: ***impact, growth, and Glory for Him*** in Higher Biblical Education. The anchor for truth in Jesus is needed desperately!

At the Birth of Jesus, the Scriptures record the following reactions of people in Luke 2:8 NKJV, Luke 2:19 ESV and Matthew 2:10 NIV:

Marveled, treasured up, pondering them, overjoyed ... May this Christmas and New Year Find You ... in great Joy, Peace, and Hope in Jesus!

With great appreciation for you and your family,



***The Trinity College of Florida Board of Trustees
wishes you and yours a very
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!***

