

Dear Friends,

You may be aware of a recent scandal in the news involving high profile personalities using their money to bribe officials in order to enroll their children in prestigious universities. The drama has played out for the past several weeks in news reports and has devastated family members who are directly involved, as well as others who are indirectly involved. The decisions of a few have left many reputations in shambles. It is heartbreaking to witness, especially because at least one member played a big part in my family's entertainment in recent years.

As I have given some thought to this scenario, I see a growing trend in our culture. It seems that we have become a compartmentalized society, believing that we can act one way in certain situations and another way in other situations when we feel it benefits us most. While there might be certain areas of life that do need compartmentalization, such as psychological trauma, the reality is you cannot compartmentalize yourself away from God presence. The Psalmist said, "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there" ([Psalm 139: 7-8](#)). We must know and be reminded that God sees us. He knows us. His presence doesn't need to be invited into our space, because He is already there. He is there when life is going well, or when it is going not so well, and when our decisions are less honorable.

In the book *Becoming the Boss*, author Lindsey Pollack reminds us that the most important person to lead is ourselves. Our actions have an impact on people, whether they are directly or indirectly involved in our lives. How well are you leading yourself? Do you have goals? Are you working hard to achieve them? I am sure that you are working hard to fulfill your goals, but the biggest question is, are your goals honorable to God and have you ask the Spirit to be involved to ensure the best outcome?

Lord, I pray that You will open our eyes to Your presence. Wherever we are, You are there! As we get close to the end of a great semester, I pray you will help us live honorable lives that represent You well. Amen.

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Mon, April 29 | Liturgical Rhythms: Megan Netherton | Butterfield Chapel, 10 & 11:20am

Wed, May 1 | Senior Speakers: Abigail Peterson (SON) & Isabel Kenney (CSBS) | Butterfield Chapel, 10 & 11:20am

Fri, May 3 | Baccalaureate Chapel* | Butterfield Chapel, 10:40am ***One-chapel schedule**
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Money Magazine Top 20 Most Affordable Private Colleges

