Zaria (left), Natalie & Paola

during our Missions Trip to UCF



A ministry of Cornerstone Christian Church P.O. Box 17244 Tampa, FL 33682 www.cornerstonetampa.org

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace." Eph 1:7

This semester we have seen God move in amazing ways! On a weekly basis we were meeting with over 100 students for one-on-one Bible studies and since the beginning of January we saw 114 students give their lives to Jesus. The Lord is raising up mighty young men and women who are experiencing His salvation, taking hold of the promises of God and learning to fight and see others birthed into the Kingdom of God. Here is our friend Zaria's testimony of how she came to know Jesus her Freshman year.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Grace to meet and connect with the incoming Freshman during Summer Orientations and for their hearts to be softened to the Gospel of Jesus.
- Crystal, Raquel and Antonique to continue to grow in their walks with Jesus and be planted in a local church.
- Amber, Alyssa and Madi to give their lives to Jesus this summer.

Audra Barkwell 813-532-7081 abarkwell@gmail.com www.AudraBarkwell.com I was raised in a Christian household going to church with my family every Sunday for as long as I can remember. I would pray when I woke up, before I went to bed, and occasionally have mini Bible studies with my mom. For a while I loved it, until it became more of a religious obligation than anything else. Still I'd proudly call myself a Christian without giving it a second thought. In 2020, when Covid hit, my family and I started sporadically

taking to college with me in 2021. During my first year at USF, I was stopped by two different campus ministers. They both shared with me that just believing in God, going to church or reading your Bible doesn't make you a Christian and they invited me to hang out with a few of their friends from church. Having so recently been crying out to God to send me friends, I knew in my heart this was exactly what I needed.

I started doing Bible studies and learned that though I was raised to know who God was to me, I had no idea who I was created to be in Him and how to really receive that. The concept of giving my life to Jesus was foreign to me up until December 2021. When asked if that was a decision I wanted to make- to follow Him for the rest of my life and lay down my own will to take up His, through tears I said "yes". I experienced the love and grace of God like never before as I was planted in a local church (Cornerstone), and began desiring only to go deeper and deeper in my newfound relationship with Christ. I learned to pray and seek God's will for my life, and saw it revealed as making Tampa my home and going into full-time campus ministry. Before graduating this May, I was able to share my faith and the testimony of the Lord's faithfulness to me with tens of other girls in leading or helping out with Bible studies and sharing the gospel across other college campuses. I am overjoyed to spend the rest of my life walking side by side with Jesus and to see every other good and perfect thing He has in store for my life. -Zaria