

# FIRE FOOTBALL COACH TIM TRIPLETT SHARES HIS WISDOM



New Head Football Coach Tim Triplett, former assistant coach at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, joined Holy Family on June 1. First on his to-do list was to meet players and parents in a new and unique way—with a 30-minute open question-and-answer session that shed light on the “Triplett Culture” that will immediately set the tone for Fire Football.

Here are 12 nuggets of wisdom Coach Triplett shared in this first meeting at Holy Family, kicking off his transition from nationally ranked Division III college football assistant to Holy Family head football coach.

As Triplett said, these guiding principles that drive his philosophy were curated from his own life experiences as a player, coach’s son and football coach.

1. **Power of influence.** “The bigger reasons of why we are here and why we compete is to get better at who we are and how we influence each other.”
2. **All about family.** “Family to me is a big part of how we live. You’ll see my dad at games, in meetings and providing input. You’ll get to know my family...you’ll see them hanging around at games.”
3. **People make the difference.** “Coach Tibesar sold me on the job in the first 5 minutes. He told me about the foundation of who you are, and really sold me on the people here at Holy Family—the wonderful people involved.”
4. **Student of life.** “Immediately people (from Holy Family) reached out to me and said how well I’m going to do here. The truth is I’m excited to learn from you guys. That’s how life is. Every single day we have to learn from our mistakes, grow and improve. That’s how life is.”
5. **Learn through thick and thin.** “We’re going to challenge you. You’re going to learn when things are going so well, and hopefully you’ll learn when things are not going really well.”
6. **And when the going gets tough...** “You’re going to learn when things are going bad. You’re going to be challenged every day. It’s about temperment. That is what will help you in when we’re in a fourth and short.”
7. **Character defines fate.** “I’m a firm believer in character. Everywhere. On the field, on the sidelines and outside of football. On my desk, I have an engraving. It says, ‘A man’s character is his fate.’ ”(Heraclitus)
8. **Only one choice.** “Do what is right at all times. If you make a bad decision, you have to answer for it. That’s what makes excellence.”
9. **Plan ahead.** “Always try to be two to three steps ahead. The world has gotten a lot faster.”
10. **Focus on improvement.** “Not that we’re going to eat, live and breathe football, but we should always be improving and getting better.”
11. **Open dialogue.** “I’ll be asking their (our players) input as well as giving it to them. You can say what you want to say, but I can too. If I don’t agree, be ready for it.”
12. **People make the difference, Part II.** “The goal is to surround this program with wonderful people, and we’ll all be able to feed off each other