

# CHURCH...REVISITED.

We continually remember before our God and Father  
your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love,  
and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:3

## September 7, 2008 • Pastor Gregg Matte Gathering Our Hearts, Part 1

1 Thessalonians 1:1-3 (p. 835)

- Background of 1 Thessalonians
  - Written by Paul in Corinth: 50 or 51 AD
  - Church started on Paul's second missionary journey
  - Prosperous City: port city on the trade route (Via Aganatia)
  
- Grace *then* Peace
  - Ignoring His grace forfeits His peace.
  
- Paul's Prayer 1 Corinthians 13:13 (p. 814)
  - Our faith produces our work.  
Luke 5:4-5 (p. 728); James 2:26 (p. 855)
  
  - Our love prompts our labor.  
Colossians 1:29 (p. 833)
  
  - Our hope inspires our endurance.  
Hebrews 6:19 & 12:2 (p. 848 & 852)

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## Ready To Get In The Game?

Visit **HoustonsFirst.org** and click on the “Volunteer” quicklink. You’ll be taken to a listing of over 100 opportunities to volunteer! Scan the whole list, or jump straight to a ministry that interests you. Then, complete and submit a brief online form and a team leader will contact you soon!

While every team is taking volunteers, here are some of our particular needs right now. Look for these online or contact the team leader below for more information.

- 1. Clothes Closet (Missions Training Center).** Volunteers will sort donations and assist the needy in choosing clothing. This is a great way to show Jesus’ love. (Claudia Reyes; [claudia.reyes@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:claudia.reyes@HoustonsFirst.org); 713.681.3521)
- 2. Can Hope (Pastoral Care).** Volunteers will serve on this cancer support group by encouraging, presenting the gospel, and praying with the sick. (Rick Jones; [rick.jones@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:rick.jones@HoustonsFirst.org); 713.957.7670)
- 3. First Fest Planners (Recreation).** Do you love planning parties or other events? Do you want to reach the community? If so, you’re invited to help us plan this year’s First Fest! First Fest is an annual HFBC tradition where our kids are given a safe alternative to Halloween. (Becky Kiser; [becky.kiser@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:becky.kiser@HoustonsFirst.org); 713.957.6702)
- 4. International Student Friendship Ministry Team (Prayer, Missions & Connection Center).** The International Student Friendship Ministry (ISFM) is a missions ministry that provides a Christian friend to every international student who requests an American friend during their term of study. ISFM is a non live-in friendship ministry open to all Christian families and single adults. (Marie Downing; [downings@flash.net](mailto:downings@flash.net); 713.956.6052)
- 5. Sunday School Teachers/After School Tutors (Missions Training Center).** Faith Baptist Mission Church is merging with Long Point Baptist Church (one of our Houston Project Sites). We need Sunday School teachers for Kindergarten–3rd grade. We are also helping children with their homework at Oak Forest Apartments (near Silber and Westview). (Tracy Collier; [tracy.collier@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:tracy.collier@HoustonsFirst.org); 713.681.3521)