

The Poor, Widows, Orphans, & Prisoners



This summer, MetroLIVE is raising funds for C.H.A.R.M. Prison Ministry — one of our MISSION 1:8 partners. Their goal is to raise \$42,900 for immediate and long-term needs of the ministry. This citywide weekly Bible study for 20s and 30s gathers at The Loop each Thursday through Aug 1 at 7:30p.

Our CITY



The Cypress Campus observed their first baptisms on May 19 — using a borrowed trough! The Sienna Campus will celebrate their first baptisms on June 15 in the pool at a member's home, and the Downtown Campus will observe their next baptisms later this summer at the Tellepsen YMCA.



The Downtown Campus welcomed 9 new members at a home-cooked three-course lunch on May 19 prepared by Sheryl Tyler and Rhonda Jones, sisters who teach cooking classes. The gathering took place at the campus' Ministry Center in the Vine Street Studios in Downtown.



On May 19, the Sienna Campus hosted a summer kick-off party for their community. This past Friday, the Cypress Campus had their children's kick-off party at the campus' new Ministry Center, and their Student Ministry is having a field day and picnic Sun, Jun 2 right after church at Smith Middle School.

Our NATION

Houston's First is partnering with the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association and other leaders to see the Gospel advanced in New York City. Some of our Missions staff members travelled there in May to continue planning for two mission trips this fall. Their trip was a strategic time of meeting with church planters and church leaders from Brooklyn, Long Island, Staten Island, Queens, and Manhattan.



NEWS + UPDATES

Houston's First Baptist Church is a relevant, biblical community where we **gather our hearts**, **grow our souls** and **give our lives** as we seek to fulfill the Great Commission.

TWEET OF THE WEEK: "Thanks @GreggMatte for praying for #oktornado victims. We just moved to OK from HOU & appreciate the support from our @HoustonsFirst family!" — @Abskinner

ALL CAMPUSES

MetroLIVE

Every Thu thru Aug 1 @ 7:30p — The Loop
At MetroLIVE on Thursdays this summer, people in their 20s/30s (college/single/married) can connect with God and each other. Curtis Zackery is our speaker and C.H.A.R.M. prison ministry (a MISSION 1:8 partner) is our missional focus.
CONTACT Ryan.McPhetridge@HoustonsFirst.org

HighPoint Bible Study

Every Wed @ 11:30a — 1010 Lamar (tunnel level)
HighPoint meets at our Downtown Campus with lunch beginning at 11:30a for \$8, and Bible study taking place from 12:10-12:40p. Through Jun 12, Executive Pastor David Self speaks on Godly Living in an Ungodly World.
CONTACT Diane.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org

NEXT GENERATIONS

Vacation Bible School

Jun 24-28 @ 9a-12:30p — The Loop
The ups and downs, twists and turns of life are nothing to fear when we trust God! That's what kids will learn at Colossal Coaster World at VBS! It's free and open to kids entering Kindergarten to completed 5th grade. Register and volunteer at HoustonsFirst.org/Events!
CONTACT Kim.Shelby@HoustonsFirst.org

Summer Week of Choir

Jul 15-19 @ 9a-3p — The Loop
At this action-packed musical day camp, kids have a blast while learning a musical that they'll perform that Friday night — Blast Off! SWoC is for kids in completed K-5th grade, and capacity is limited. Register and volunteer at HoustonsFirst.org/Events!
CONTACT Joy.Harris@HoustonsFirst.org

WOMEN

Summer Bible Studies

Connect with others and grow closer to the Lord through these gatherings for women this summer. Register online at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

- **Telling Your Story**
Wed, Jun 5 & 12 @ 9:30-11:30a — The Loop (Rm 253)
Taught by Nancy Taylor, this interactive class encourages you to tell His story — your way.
- **Delighted To Share**
Wed, Jun 5 & 12 @ 6:30-8:30p — The Loop (Connection Ctr)
Join teacher Lisa Calvert as she unravels what it means to be delighted to share.
- **That Makes Two Of Us**
Sat, Jun 8 @ 9-11:30a — The Loop (Fellowship Ctr)
At our Summer Mentoring Ministry Kickoff Event, Debbie Stuart shares some dos and don'ts of mentoring.
CONTACT Haylee.Pearson@HoustonsFirst.org

MEN

Men: Serve
Sat, Jun 22 @ 8:30a-3p — The Loop
Men will gather in teams to go out across the city to serve the widows of our church through yard work, home repairs, and other acts of service. Registration is required, so sign up at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.
CONTACT Eric.Reed@HoustonsFirst.org

THE LOOP

Summer Wednesday Night Bible Study

Begins Wed, Jun 5 @ 6:30p — Garden Rm
Chad Chambers leads this study for adults of all ages on Wednesday nights from Jun 5-Jul 31 (except Jun 26 and Jul 10). He'll talk about "To Live Is Christ" — What does it mean? How does it happen? What does it produce? Visit HoustonsFirst.org/Events.
CONTACT Noelle.Carpenter@HoustonsFirst.org

HUB STUDENT MINISTRY

Summer Rush

The HUB Student Ministry has a full summer ahead! Here are a few upcoming examples:

- **Summer Rush Wednesday Nights**
Every Wed, Jun 5-Jul 27 @ 6-8:30p — Level 3
Gather with friends in the HUB Student Ministry area to catch up, hang out, play games, worship, and explore God's Word.
- **Summer Rush Groups**
Every Thu, Jun 6-Aug 1
Middle School students meet at The Loop from 1-3p, and High School students meet at various locations around town from 7-9p as they grow deeper in their relationship with God and each other.
CONTACT Susan.Newman@HoustonsFirst.org

Moving Your Teenager Toward Adulthood

Every Wed, Jun 5-26 @ 6:30p — Rm 362
Parents of teens (or preteens) — come learn from Next Generations Minister Doug Bischoff and High School Student Minister Zac Hufty about how you can help move your teenager toward adulthood, and how Houston's First can partner with you through the journey.
CONTACT Zac.Hufty@HoustonsFirst.org

SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES

Father's Day Luncheon

Sun, Jun 16 @ 12:15p — Fellowship Ctr
Hey single dads (and moms, too) — come celebrate Father's Day with Otto's BBQ! The event is free and open to the whole family, so bring your kids. RSVP online at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.
CONTACT Amber.Willet@HoustonsFirst.org

CYPRESS

Boston Mission Trip

Aug 31-Sep 7
The Cypress Campus is partnering with City on a Hill Church for street evangelism, working with International Student Ministry, and assisting college students moving on to campus. Cost is \$1,500. Visit HoustonsFirst.org/Cypress and complete the Mission Interest Form (specify "Boston") by Jul 15.
CONTACT Rebecca.Dinkins@HoustonsFirst.org

HUB Summer Field Day and Family Picnic

Sun, Jun 2 after church until 4p — Smith Middle School
Families with 6th-12th graders are kickin' off summer with games, hamburgers and a dunking booth with Pastor Jason! It's free to attend, but sign up if you plan to join the fun! Visit HoustonsFirst.org/Cypress.
CONTACT Josh.Ganjavi@HoustonsFirst.org

DOWNTOWN

Make It Your Church Orientation

Sun, Jun 2 @ 12:30p — 1010 Lamar
What does it mean to be a member of Houston's First and the Downtown Campus? Find out at this luncheon with Campus Pastor Lee Hsia and other staff members.
CONTACT Peter.Lee@HoustonsFirst.org

SIENNA

Summer Nights

First Tuesdays this summer @ 7-8:30p — 4309 Sienna Pkwy
Women from the Sienna Campus will gather for fellowship, worship and teaching on three nights this summer (Jun 4, Jul 2, Aug 6). Laura Seifert will examine three women in scripture whose messy lives were transformed by Jesus — 3 nights, 3 women, 3 encounters! Visit HoustonsFirst.org/Sienna.
CONTACT Cathy.Clemons@HoustonsFirst.org

Baptisms

Sat, Jun 15 — The Jarretts' Home
Be there to celebrate with members of the Sienna Campus who have come forward for baptism — to publicly profess their faith in Jesus Christ! Watch for details soon. If you have questions about being baptized, contact Pastor Jeff.
CONTACT Jeff.Rees@HoustonsFirst.org

GIVING LIFE AWAY

PRAY FOR J-PEOPLE TEAM

A mission team is headed to East Asia to work with the J-People, an unreached people group adopted by Houston's First. Pray for them during their journey Jun 6-16.

EAST ASIA MISSION TRIP INFO MEETING

Sun, Jun 2 @ 12:30p — The Loop (Rm 252)
Get info about the trip this fall working with the J-People, orphans, and house church leader training. Stop by the Missions Office to pick up a lunch before heading to the meeting in Rm 252.
CONTACT Jordan.Ward@HoustonsFirst.org

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Coming this fall, Houston's First is partnering with Habitat for Humanity to build a home. Details are coming soon about how you can help!

HOUSTON 1:8

Jul 7-11 — Various Sites
Be a missionary to your city by serving on the Houston 1:8 team. Houston 1:8 sends 1,500 missionaries to 14 sites to share the love of Christ around town. The registration cost goes up Jun 10, so visit HoustonsFirst.org/Houston18 to join the team now!

FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHES CLOSET

Looking for somewhere to serve this summer? Give your life away at the Faith Center Food Pantry & Clothes Closet. Open Mon-Thu and Sat from 10a-2p, volunteers help sort donations, guide people as they shop, share the Gospel, and more! Contact Fred.Polenz@HoustonsFirst.org.

WILL YOU RUN FOR SABEENA?

Help raise awareness and funds for As Our Own (MISSION 1:8 partner) as they fight human trafficking. Register to run the Houston Half Marathon & Relay on Sun, Oct 27 for As Our Own. Visit AsOurOwn.org and click the "I Will Run" link to learn more.

SUNDAYS AT HOUSTON'S FIRST

The Loop Campus

7401 Katy Fwy • Houston, TX 77024
Worship 9:15a • 11a • 5:30p
Life Bible Studies 8a • 9:15a • 10:45a • 4:15p • 6:45p

Cypress Campus

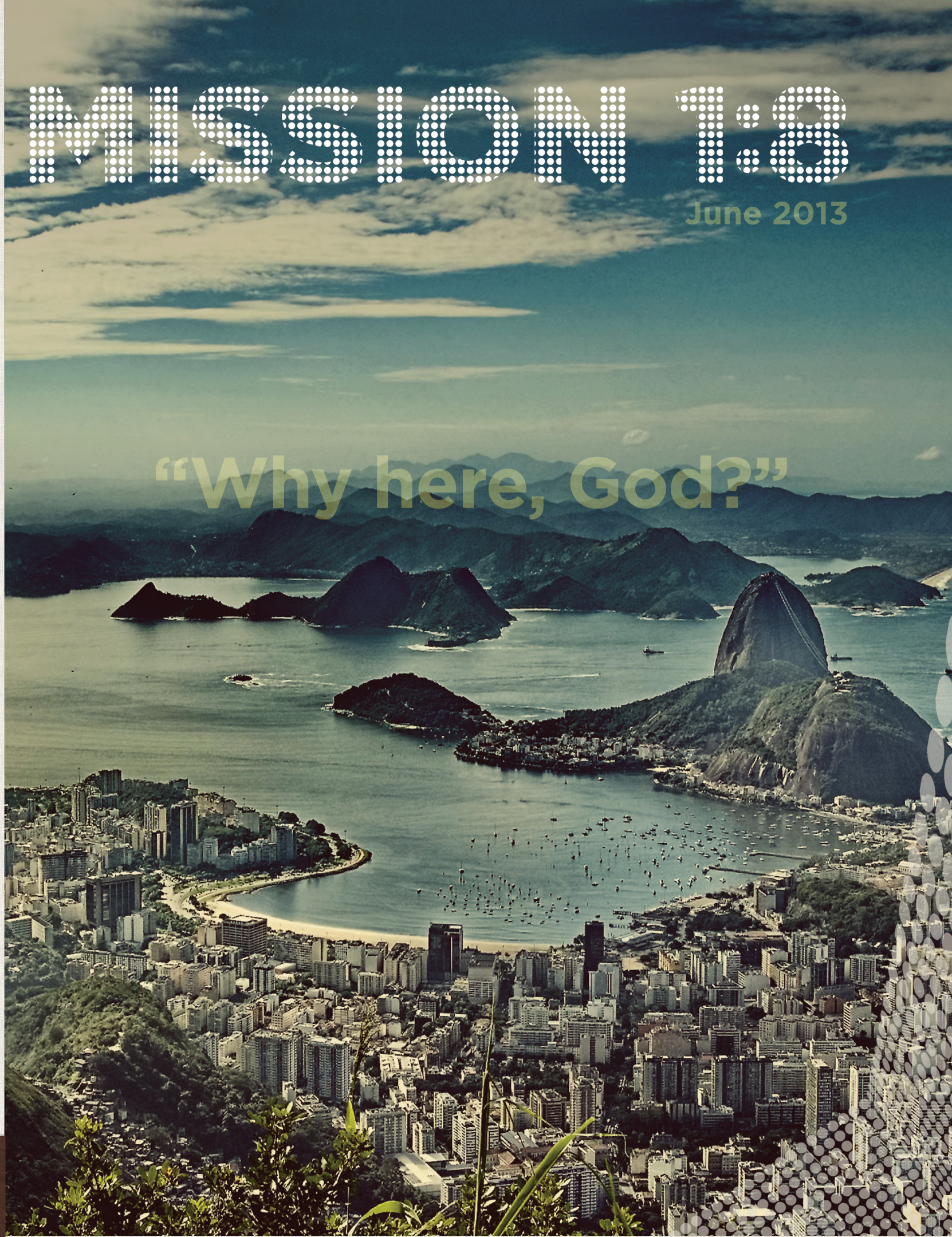
10300 Warner Smith Blvd • Cypress, TX 77433
Worship 11a
Life Bible Studies 9:30a

Downtown Campus

1010 Lamar St • Houston, TX 77002
Worship 11a
Life Bible Studies 9:30a

Sienna Campus

4309 Sienna Pkwy • Missouri City, TX 77459
Worship 9:30a • 11a
Life Bible Studies 9:30a • 11a



Rio de Janeiro



God has been using Patti LaCarter — a full-time missionary from Houston's First — to start Brazilian churches over the past 17 years. Members from those churches partnered with the team that week in March to personally reach out to thousands of people in a matter of days. The day before the team arrived, Rafael and Luiza Cordeiro moved into the Ipanema community. Rafael and Luiza met and married in a church Patti had started across the bay in Niteroi. Now, they were following God's call to lead the church planting efforts in Ipanema. Just a few days later on Monday evening they were already leading a new core group.

- **\$350,000** for space rental/equipment
- **\$100,000** for personnel/salaries
- **\$50,000** for community outreach
- **\$50,000** for promotion/communications
- **\$50,000** for hosting mission teams
- **\$50,000** for mother church plant support

Last year when Pastor Gregg was with a mission team in Brazil and asked if I would be interested in planting a church in Rio de Janeiro with Houston's First, I think my heart skipped a beat with joy! To plant a church in Rio was a dream God had put in my heart some years ago, but I had no idea how it would all come together.

God has allowed me to be a part of many wonderful things in this nation over the last 17 years of ministry, but this is a very special project

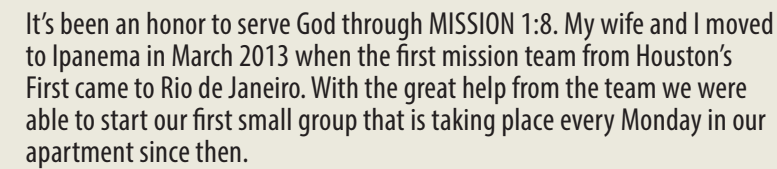


considering Houston's First is my HOME church! First Baptist introduced me to missions, commissioned me and has faithfully prayed and encouraged me through the years! What an honor it is now to be able to work with my dear brothers and sisters as we work to further God's Kingdom in Rio, a city who desperately needs Jesus. I believe great things are yet to come! Please pray for this new church plant!

Looking forward to seeing some of you here!

Patti LaCarter

- 6.1 million people
- Most visited city in the Southern Hemisphere
- 2nd most irreligious city in Brazil
- 20% of Rio residents live in favelas (slums)
- Host city of 2014 World Cup and 2016 Summer Olympics



Ipanema is located in the "heart" of Rio de Janeiro and is one of the most influential neighborhoods in the city. It is an expensive upper-class neighborhood where faith seems to be a mix of different things and definitely Jesus is not well-known. Ipanema is a wealthy area where many people, maybe because of their status, don't think they need God or do not have interest in knowing God. The youth are clearly empty of strong values; they do what they want to do, no limits, no reference, no God.

The lack of evangelical churches is also huge. It confirms that the word of God is not reaching these people. During our prayer walks in Ipanema we asked ourselves many times: “Why here, God?” Well, if we look at the poor communities, we see lots of missionary work going on. Praise God for that! But, what about Ipanema and the surrounding areas? These people also need to know our Savior — the light of the world.

These are the people we are trying to reach. These are the people who are coming to our apartment every Monday. These are the people to whom Jesus wants to make Himself known. To see God moving and working in people is what motivates me and makes my heart beat for planting a church in Ipanema. It's not easy, though. We are facing lots of resistance when we invite people.

- “After we prayed, my daughter is not feeling any pain. Thank you for your prayers.” — Claudio, whose daughter had terrible spine pain

• “When I met the team from Houston at the beach, I felt at peace. I realized God was calling me back.” — Regina, who attended a Baptist church when younger and got away from the Lord. She never misses our small group.

- “I do not need to leave my apartment anymore. Praise God for that!” — Paulo, who’s currently jobless and who received a notice that his apartment building would be demolished in 15 days.

Thanks very much, Houston's First, for your support and prayers. Please keep praying for the people here, for opportunities to connect people to our group and for open hearts. Pray that we can multiply our groups to soon start our worship services. Keep praying for me and my wife — for God to give us wisdom and strength. All we want is to be used by Him and for Him.

All for His Glory,

Rafael Cordeiro

