

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES

Life Bible Studies are the primary method for connecting with others and growing together at Houston's First. Visit HoustonsFirst.org to find one that's right for you, or ask the Welcome Team at your campus for assistance.



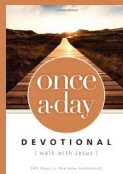
PASSION 2016

Jan 2-4, 2016 — Toyota Center

Give life away as a Door Holder as we welcome thousands of 18-25 year olds to Houston to lift up the name of Jesus! Houston's First has a long relationship with Passion, and our church family is invited to serve throughout the gathering. Learn more and submit your Door Holder application at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

CONTACT Steven.Murray@HoustonsFirst.org

2016 DEVOTIONAL



Pastor Gregg recommends the *Once-A-Day Walk with Jesus Devotional* for our church family to use in 2016. The 365 daily entries allow you to read through the New Testament in one year. Each day includes a Scripture portion, insight from a Christian writer of the past, and a personal application and worship portion. The devotional is available from CornerBooks for \$15.

KIDS NEED COATS

Our church's new Faith Center - Harwin location is asking for gently used or new coats to provide for the many children they serve. Please bring donated coats for infants through 12-year-olds to donations boxes at The Loop Campus by the Missions Office or The Clubhouse (Level 3) by Sun, Jan 10.



SUNDAYS AT HOUSTON'S FIRST

The Loop Campus

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

Cypress Campus

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

Downtown Campus

1010 Lamar (Tunnel Level)
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

Spanish Campus

7401 Katy Freeway
Houston, TX 77024
Worship 5p
Life Bible Studies 6:30p



Interested in a 2016 mission trip? For trip details and to complete an interest form, visit online at HoustonsFirst.org/Missions. Spring trips include:

California (Bay Area): Feb 24-28

Costa Rica (Family Trip): Mar 12-19

NYC (Easter): Mar 23-27

NYC (IT Trip): April 8-13

Brazil: May 11-16

Cambodia: May 12-22

CONTACT Ameer.Omar@HoustonsFirst.org

NYC MISSION TRIP INTEREST MEETING

Sun, Jan 10 @ 12:30p — The Loop (Reception Rm)

We're sending out technology experts to church plants and ministry partners around the country to make a difference. On Apr 8-13, 2016, be a part of the team that consults on audio visual, information technology and everything in between. God called you for a higher purpose and He's equipped you with skills that can make a huge difference. Raise up, save up, pray up and join us!

CONTACT Ameer.Omar@HoustonsFirst.org

For more information on Giving Life Away, contact Charlotte.Nease@HoustonsFirst.org

SHUTTLE PARKING

Do you attend The Loop on Sunday mornings? Use shuttle parking to make room for others! It's a simple way to expand the ministry of our church. Get details on the five garages at HoustonsFirst.org/ShuttleParking.

OPEN CARRY LAWS

Effective Jan 1, 2016, the Open Carry law goes into effect in Texas. However, Houston's First Baptist Church will not permit the open carry of handguns and other firearms on any of its campuses or properties. If you have questions, please contact Director of Security Nate Finn (Nate.Finn@HoustonsFirst.org).



HOUSTON'S FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH
PASTOR GREGG MATTE

Weekly Guide
Dec 20, 2015

GATHER WITH THE HOUSTON'S FIRST FAMILY
ON CHRISTMAS EVE AS WE PREPARE TO

COME AND ADORE HIM!

See inside for Christmas Eve
schedules at our five campuses



Photo by Jack Potts Photography
from Celebration 2015

ALL CAMPUSES

HighPoint Bible Study

Wednesdays @ 11:30a — 1010 Lamar (Tunnel Level)

This weekly downtown Bible study is taking a Christmas break! Join us Jan 6 with Dr. David Self teaching. Bring your lunch, or purchase one there for \$8. The lesson begins at 12:10p. Visit HoustonsFirst.org/HighPoint to learn more.

CONTACT Diane.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org

Stephen Ministry Training Class

Applications due Wed, Jan 20

Stephen Ministry training equips members through 50 hours of classes to come alongside individuals who are experiencing loneliness, relationship difficulties, loss, divorce, grief or spiritual crises in their lives. To become a Stephen Minister, apply at HoustonsFirst.org/PastoralCare. Classes begin Jan 20 on Wednesday evenings during MidLink at The Loop.

CONTACT Denise.Munton@HoustonsFirst.org

YOUNG SINGLES

Summit New Years Eve

Thu, Dec 31 @ 9p-2a — Lucky Strike

Strike gold at Summit NYE 2016! Whether you decide to eat, dance, sing, or play, we'll keep things rolling until the New Year comes! Don't miss this golden opportunity to ring in 2016 with other young singles. Online registration available through Wed, Dec 30, at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

CONTACT Joshua.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org

Christmas Eve CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

Gather with the Houston's First family for candlelight services on Thu, Dec 24. Visit HoustonsFirst.org/Christmas for details about the following options:

The Loop @ 2p, 4p, & 6p — 7401 Katy Fwy (Worship Ctr)

Cypress @ 4p & 6p — Tin Hall (14800 Tin Hall Rd)

Sienna @ 4p & 6p — 4309 Sienna Parkway

Spanish @ 2p, 4p, & 6p — gathering with The Loop

The Downtown Campus family and guests will come together to give life away serving at Open Door Mission.

WOMEN

The Table

Tuesdays, Feb 2-Mar 8 @ 6:30-8p — The Loop

Come experience the presence of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit as women from across Houston join together ready to embrace the hope and provision found through the Word. Teachers Kay Altic, Kelly Matte, and Star Smith will lead us as we 'dine' together and see how Jesus is MORE than enough!

CONTACT Carolyn.ONeal@HoustonsFirst.org

MEN

Men:Serve

Sat, Jan 23 @ 8a-1p — The Loop (Oasis Rm)

Men will gather at The Loop Campus then head out in teams to serve the widows of our church family around the city. Yard work, home repairs, car maintenance, and other tasks — there is a place for you to serve! Register by Fri, Jan 15, at HoustonsFirst.org/Events. If you are a widow in need of assistance, contact Sherry Oradat at 713.957.6764.

CONTACT Emily.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org

THE LOOP

Fitness Expo

Sun, Jan 24 @ 12:30-2p — The Loop (Fitness & Rec Ctr)

Celebrating its 32nd anniversary in 2016, the Fitness & Recreation Center offers a variety of classes, programs, and opportunities. More than just a place to get in shape, the FRC is a ministry as well. Come discover all that the FRC has to offer at Expo 2016 with class demonstrations, health screenings, kids' programs and much more! Learn more at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

CONTACT Debbie.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org

YOUNG SINGLES

Desire: Summit Women's Conference

Fri, Jan 15 - Sat, Jan 16 — The Loop (Oasis Rm)

How do we navigate our desires for His honor and our best? Keynote speaker Kori DeLeon will focus her remarks on God's passion, plan, and power to transform people into His beautiful likeness. Register for \$30 until Thu, Jan 14, at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

CONTACT Sherrie.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org

CYPRESS

MARRIED YOUNG ADULTS

3-Day Marriage Clinic

Jan 11-13 @ 12-6p — Cypress Ministry Center

Though couples experience different symptoms such as anger, resentments, and withdrawal, the root problem is usually the same: violating one of more of 25 *Essential Marriage Skills* Dr. Karl Elkins has identified in the Bible. Elkins, from Christway Counseling Center, will lead a 3-day marriage clinic to explore these essential marriage skills, which provides the equivalent of 18 weeks of counseling in just three days! Register, for just \$75 per couple at HoustonsFirst.org/Cypress.

CONTACT Greg.Curnutte@HoustonsFirst.org
or 713.335.6465.

DOWNTOWN

Christmas Eve at Open Door

Thu, Dec 24 @ 2-6p

Open Door Mission (5803 Harrisburg Blvd)

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus with our brothers at Open Door Mission! Open Door is an organization committed to transforming the lives of men who are unhoused, disabled, or struggling with chemical dependency. We will gather for a traditional Christmas Eve service, then serve a meal and eat with the residents of the mission. Register at HoustonsFirst.org/Downtown by Mon, Dec 21.

CONTACT Nikki.Moss@HoustonsFirst.org

SIENNA

NEXTGEN MINISTRIES

Popcorn & Pajamas Family Movie Night

Fri, Jan 8 @ 6:30p — Sienna Worship Center

You wear your pajamas and we will supply the popcorn for a family movie night! Families with kids of all ages are welcome to come and watch HOME. Light refreshments will be served. Learn more at HoustonsFirst.org/Sienna.

CONTACT Cara.Buis@HoustonsFirst.org

SPANISH

Knowing and Sharing Your Salvation in Christ Today @ 6:30p — The Loop (Rm 262)

Do you break out in a cold sweat at the thought sharing the Gospel with someone? We invite you tonight to a special Life Bible Study with Pastor Juan Alaniz, as he discusses nailing down your faith and salvation in Christ and sharing it with others. Learn more about this class and others at HoustonsFirst.org/Spanish.

CONTACT Karina.Bazaldua@HoustonsFirst.org

YEAR-END GIVING

As 2015 comes to a close, consider sharing your generosity with Houston's First to support the ministry of our church as we share the Good News in our city, our nation, and our world.

To qualify as 2015 donations, contributions must be received as follows:

IN PERSON

Bring to the church's business office by 4:30p on Thu, Dec 31, 2015. The business office is located at The Loop Campus at 7401 Katy Freeway. Contributions can also be placed in the offering plate at any campus throughout December.

BY MAIL

Must be postmarked before Fri, Jan 1, 2016, and mailed to Houston's First Baptist Church, 7401 Katy Freeway, Houston, Texas 77024.

ONLINE

Submit contributions at HoustonsFirst.org/Generosity before midnight (Central) on Thu, Dec 31, 2015.

MOBILE

Submit contributions on a mobile device before midnight (Central) on Thu, Dec 31, 2015. To make a mobile contribution, text your campus code to 77977 to receive a designated link — HFBCLoop, HFBC Cypress, HFBCDowntown, HFBCSienna, or HFBCSpanish.

Please contact Sara Johnson at 713.957.5806 or at Sara.Johnson@HoustonsFirst.org should you desire additional information about year-end giving.

GIFTS OF STOCK

Since the church is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, gifts of stock qualify as a charitable contribution and are tax deductible. If you would like to donate a gift of stock, or desire additional information, please contact Amber Willet at 713.957.5807 or at Amber.Willet@HoustonsFirst.org.

Need more information? Call 713.681.8000, visit HoustonsFirst.org, and follow us on



As a courtesy to others:

- Silence cell phones
- Remain seated once message begins
- Use restroom before worship service
- If you leave, re-entry may not be allowed

At the end of the worship service as people are invited to accept Christ or join the church:

- Remain in the Worship Center
- Leave once we are dismissed
- Pray as people respond