

# welcome.

MAR 2018

A MONTHLY SNAPSHOT • HOUSTON'S FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH • PASTOR GREGG MATTE

#FOLLOWMETOFIRST

## COME CELEBRATE!

# EASTER

## WEEKEND

MAR 31 - APR 1

- 2 | COME CELEBRATE! / EASTER SCHEDULE
- 3 | BROKEN FOR YOU / SUMMER 2018 EVENTS
- 4 | OUR HEART-WORKING STAFF
- 5 | WHAT'S HAPPENING
- 6 | WHERE YOU'LL FIND US



HOUSTON'S FIRST  
BAPTIST CHURCH

HOUSTONSFIRST.ORG



# COME CELEBRATE!

Jesus came back to life and left the empty tomb behind Him — walking away in victory over death once and for all. He did so *for* all, too — for every man, woman, and child who receives Him as their Savior regardless of how unforgivable we think our sins might be. He paid the price for our sins by dying on the cross, then forever defeated death by rising from the grave. He truly is risen!

In our "Follower" message series this semester, we've seen how followers of Jesus can be leaders as we live out our faith and point others to Him. On Easter Weekend, I encourage you to lead people to Houston's First so they can hear the Good News of Jesus for themselves at one of thirteen worship services across our five campuses. I look forward to celebrating His resurrection with you and our guests as we proclaim that He is risen, indeed!

In Him,

*Pastor Gregg*

Pastor Gregg Matte



## EASTER WEEKEND

### THE LOOP CAMPUS

Sat, Mar 31 @ 5p

Sun, Apr 1 @ 8a, 9:30a, 11a & 5p

### CYPRESS CAMPUS

Sun, Apr 1 @ 9:30a & 11a

### DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

Sun, Apr 1 @ 9:30a & 11a

### ESPAÑOL CAMPUS

Sun, Apr 1 @ 9:30a

### SIENNA CAMPUS

Sun, Apr 1 @ 8a, 9:30a & 11a

Life Bible Studies will not gather, but each campus offers something for our youngest church family members on Sunday. Visit [HoustonFirst.org](http://HoustonFirst.org) for additional details about plans at your campus.

## WHO WILL YOU INVITE?

We're providing tools for you to invite people to come celebrate Easter at any of our campuses.



### SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS

Download now at [HoustonFirst.org](http://HoustonFirst.org)



### INVITE CARDS

Take 10 and spread the word (available at each campus Sun, Mar 4)



### YARD SIGNS

Display at your home or business (available at each campus Sun, Mar 11)

And remember — a simple personal invitation is the most effective way to connect somebody to Houston's First!

## WHEN WILL YOU SERVE?

Help care for our littlest guests on Easter Sunday! Attend one Easter service and volunteer during another with the NextGen Ministry at your campus. Visit the Easter page at [HoustonFirst.org](http://HoustonFirst.org) to sign up to serve.

TAKE A "FOOT SELFIE" AT YOUR CAMPUS AND POST IT WITH #FOLLOWMETOFIRST





# BROKEN FOR YOU

THU, MAR 29

The Thursday before Easter is known as "Maundy Thursday." The term "maundy" is a form of *mandatum* — the Latin word for "command." It was on this evening before Jesus' crucifixion that He gathered with His disciples for their last supper together. There, He washed their feet and gave them this commandment:

***"I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another."***

JOHN 13:34

On this special evening (Thu, Mar 29), the Houston's First family will remember Jesus' sacrifice at our Broken For You services as we gather in praise, prayer, and preparation for Easter. The evening will also include observance of the Lord's Supper. Visit [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org) for childcare and additional information.

## THE LOOP CAMPUS

7p with Sienna Campus Pastor Malcolm Marshall and Dr. Jeremiah Johnston speaking

## CYPRESS CAMPUS

7p with Campus Pastor Jason Swiggart speaking

## DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

7p with Campus Pastor Lee Hsia speaking

## ESPAÑOL CAMPUS

7p with Campus Pastor Juan Alaniz speaking

## SIENNA CAMPUS

Gathering at The Loop Campus

**SAVE THE DATE!**

# Summer 2018

*put these down on the family calendar so you don't miss out!*



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 25–28— The Loop Campus

Kids entering K–6th grade

(plus other kids born by Dec 31, 2013)

Registration opens Sun, Apr 8



June 10–13

Carolina Creek Christian Camp

Kids entering 4th–7th grades

Registration open now  
at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org)



July 20–26

Panama City Beach, FL

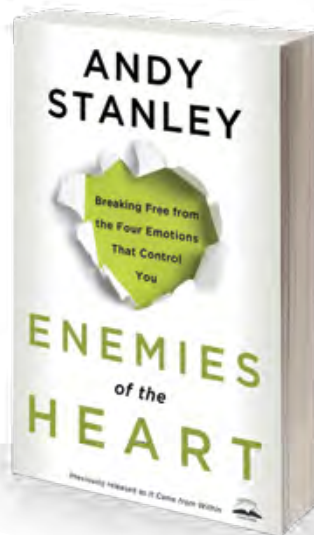
Kids entering 7th grade–Recent Grads  
Registration open now at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org)



# OUR HEART-WORKING STAFF

We've all done it—acted in ways that surprise even ourselves. A harsh word, a stubborn stance, a petty act. What is it that drives us to do things we otherwise would never do, even those of us who have given our lives to Jesus?

In *Enemies of the Heart*, Andy Stanley looks at four destructive forces—guilt, anger, greed, and jealousy—and how they infiltrate our lives and damage our relationships. Just like actual heart disease, we often focus on treating the symptoms rather than examining our heart to discover the source of the problem. Stanley presents a biblical approach for confronting and remedying these forces.



Available from CornerBooks and most online retailers

Houston's First staff members at each campus are reading *Enemies of the Heart* this month. Pastor Gregg has asked the staff to talk about it in team meetings with the goal of completing the book by Easter. "I'm looking forward to how the Lord will use this in our lives to grow us spiritually," he said.

"I have been both encouraged and challenged by *Enemies of the Heart*," says Jordan Floro, Student Minister at our Sienna Campus. "I am grateful to be a part of a church that not only values effective and excellent ministry, but is also genuinely concerned about the condition of my heart."

# FEBRUARY MOMENTS



Volunteers assemble 50,000 Easter invite card bundles



Downtown Campus welcomes people amid construction



67 people joined the church at Make It Your Church at The Loop Campus



Summit and Impact singles tour and serve in Israel



Parent Commitment moment at Sienna Campus

## CornerBooks' Summer Reading Challenge

May 22–Aug 7  
Open to all ages  
Registration begins Tue, May 22

## Daycation (day camp)

May 29–Aug 10  
The Loop Campus  
Kids entering 1st–5th grades  
Registration opens Mon, Mar 19

## Dunamai (day camp)

May 29–Aug 10  
The Loop Campus  
Kids entering 6th–9th grades  
Registration opens Mon, Mar 19

## Family Night at Typhoon Texas

Fri, June 1 — Typhoon Texas (Katy)  
Families with kids (birth–12th grade)  
Tickets on sale Sun, Apr 1

## Houston 1:8

July 9–12  
Various locations  
All ages  
Registration opens in May

## Discover252 (T-Bar-M Day Camp)

Aug 6–10  
Cypress Campus  
Kids entering 1st–4th grades  
Registration open now

## THAT'S NOT ALL!

These are only some of the events happening this summer. You can look forward to weekly gatherings and other opportunities at your campus where you can connect with the Houston's First family and invite guests, too!



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOUSTON'S FIRST?

*make it your*  
**church**  
ORIENTATION

DISCOVER WHAT IT MEANS TO BE  
A MEMBER OF HOUSTON'S FIRST

RSVP at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org) for these sessions in April:

- The Loop (Sun, Apr 8)
- Cypress (Sun, Apr 8)
- Downtown (Sun, Apr 22)



**PASSION**  
/ WORSHIP NIGHTS

JOIN US!  
FRI, APR 20 @ 7P  
THE LOOP CAMPUS

HOSTED BY **PASSION · LOUIE GIGLIO**  
WITH **LEVI LUSKO**  
TICKETS AT [TICKETSERVANT.COM](http://TICKETSERVANT.COM)



Text **HFBCAPP**  
to **41411**  
for links to download the  
Houston's First Baptist Church app  
for iOS or Android



Available on the **Google play** and **App Store**

## ALL CAMPUSES

### HIGHPOINT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays @ 11:30a-12:40p — 1010 Lamar (Suite 1250)  
This weekly downtown Bible study is open to everyone! This month, Executive Pastor David Self talks about making a difference through forgiveness (Mar 7), integrity (Mar 14), service (Mar 21), and love (Mar 28). Lunch is available for purchase for \$5, or feel free to bring yours with you.  
CONTACT: [Diane.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Diane.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org)

### LIFE IN LIMBO

Wed, Mar 21 @ 6:30-8p — The Loop Campus (Rm 505)  
Life in Limbo is a 90 minute experience guiding participants through the complexities of the Child Protective System both locally and abroad. It provides context that will allow participants to more empathetically and effectively love those around them. Registration is not required, and childcare is provided through regular MidLink programming.  
CONTACT: [Toni.Steere@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Toni.Steere@HoustonsFirst.org)

### IMPACT SPRING RETREAT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

Mar 23-25 — Pineywoods Camp  
Singles (late 30s, 40s, 50ish) will meet new friends and gather with other single adults for a fun, relaxing weekend! Ken Brumley will teach and the James Huber Band will lead worship. Enjoy lots of optional activities along with a BBQ dinner, bonfire, hayride, s'mores, and more. Register at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org) for \$79 through Sun, Mar 18, then for \$99 after that.  
CONTACT: [Chris.Heitman@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Chris.Heitman@HoustonsFirst.org)

### SHARE YOUR FAITH WORKSHOP

Sat, Apr 7 @ 9a-3p — The Loop Campus (Connection Ctr)  
This five-hour workshop developed by Evangelism Explosion introduces a Gospel presentation using the five fingers on your hand that's easy to learn and hard to forget. Register at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org) and come learn and practice this simple way to share your faith in a loving and engaging way.  
CONTACT: [Charlotte.Nease@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Charlotte.Nease@HoustonsFirst.org)

## THE LOOP CAMPUS

### FIRST H.O.P.E. JOB TRAINING

Sat, Mar 10 @ 9a-Noon — The Loop Campus (Rm 249)  
First H.O.P.E. helps people find jobs or improve their current employment. At this month's gathering, guest speaker Mary Emami, MBA, Ph.D., will speak about "Creativity and Innovation." Seating is limited so register early for this free event at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org).  
CONTACT: [Bob.Stroud@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Bob.Stroud@HoustonsFirst.org)

### TEXAS ROUNDUP

Sat, Mar 10 @ 11a-1:30p — The Loop Campus (Oasis Rm)  
For adults 76+, the second annual Texas Round Up is an outreach opportunity—and a foot stompin' good time! Enjoy great country and gospel music, as well as testimonies from the original FBC Dallas Texas Round Up Band—and the dessert contest is not to be missed! Register for \$10 per person at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org), by calling 713.957.7661, or by emailing [Adult.Enrichment@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Adult.Enrichment@HoustonsFirst.org).

### CANHOPE

Mon, Mar 12 @ 6:45-8p — The Loop Campus (Reception Rm)  
CanHope ministers to people touched by cancer and to those who love and care for them. We share a meal together with the entrée provided. Attendees are asked to bring a vegetable, salad, or dessert dish to feed about 6-8 people. Come and enjoy a time of testimony, prayer, and a guest speaker. RSVP by registering at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org) or call Pastoral Care at 713.957.6764.

### MIDLINK — SESSION 2

Begins Wed, Mar 21 — The Loop Campus  
MidLink on Wednesday nights includes MidLink Cafe, NextGen activities (birth-12th grade), music rehearsals, and numerous Milestones classes for different stages of life, special situations, and general discipleship. Visit [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org) to find the full MidLink schedule and the list of available Milestones classes.  
CONTACT: [Geniffer.Roach@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Geniffer.Roach@HoustonsFirst.org)

### BAND OF BROTHERS: TOPGOLF

Mon, Apr 9 @ 6:45-9p — Topgolf  
Men — even if you have never played golf, you are sure to have a great time at this event as you get to know other men from Houston's First and enjoy a little friendly competition, too. Tickets are \$25 per person and include dinner, dessert, and fun giveaways. Limited spots are available, so register at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org) before Wed, Apr 4.  
CONTACT: [Eric.Reed@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Eric.Reed@HoustonsFirst.org)

### BLENDED & BLESSED

Sat, Apr 21 @ 8a-4:30p — The Loop Campus (Chapel)  
Houston's First hosts this one-day FamilyLife Today livestream event for stepfamily couples, single parents, dating couples with kids, and those who care about blended families. Register for \$15 for adults and \$10 per child for childcare at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org).  
CONTACT: [Holly.Crain@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Holly.Crain@HoustonsFirst.org)

## CYPRESS CAMPUS

### SPRING BREAK SOCCER CAMP

Mar 12-15 @ 9-11a — Cypress Campus  
The Cypress Campus is partnering with Sports Quest to offer boys and girls ages 5-12 a chance to learn the game of soccer and have fun with friends over Spring Break! This camp is open to all kids regardless of previous playing experience and will be grouped according to age and ability. Kids will learn individual and group techniques, and each day will include a devotional time. Register for \$100 per student at [SportsQuestTraining.com](http://SportsQuestTraining.com).  
CONTACT: [Cindy.Wineman@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Cindy.Wineman@HoustonsFirst.org)

### MIDLINK — SESSION 2

Begins Wed, Mar 21 @ 6-8p — Cypress Campus  
MidLink what we call Wednesday nights at the Cypress Campus. While opportunities for kids, including Mission Friends (birth-kinder), Blast (1st-5th), and Cy-HUB Metro (6th-12th), are in full swing, the Cypress Campus offers Milestones classes for Adults, as well. Classes include Financial Peace, PLACE, Grief Share, *Epic of Eden* (women), *The Grown-Up's Guide to Teenage Humans*, Basic: We are Church, RISK (men), DivorceCare and DivorceCare for Kids.  
CONTACT: [Susan.Newman@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Susan.Newman@HoustonsFirst.org)

## DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

### MANAGING GOD'S MONEY: A BIBLICAL GUIDE

Every Wed, Mar 21-Apr 25 @ 7-8:30p  
Downtown Campus (Rm 217)  
God cares a great deal more about how we manage and allocate our money than most of us imagine. We are called to be good stewards of all gifts from God, and money is no exception. Taught by George Tagli, this six-week course is designed for anyone who desires a greater biblical understanding of how money and possessions are tied to Christ and eternity and will break down exactly what the Bible has to say about this important topic.  
Register at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org).  
CONTACT: [George.Tagli@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:George.Tagli@HoustonsFirst.org)

## ESPAÑOL CAMPUS

### STAR WARS MOVIE NIGHT

Sat, Mar 17 @ 2p — The Loop Campus (The HUB Area)  
Students in 6th-12th grades are invited to join in on this movie marathon! Pizza, popcorn and drinks will be provided. All you have to do is bring your favorite candy to share!  
CONTACT: [Karina.Bazaldua@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Karina.Bazaldua@HoustonsFirst.org)

### BAPTISMS

Sun, Mar 18 @ 6:30p — The Loop Campus (Water Wall)  
Gather with us to witness all those who have decided to take the step of obedience and celebrate their salvation with our church family!  
CONTACT: [Douglas.Hernandez@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Douglas.Hernandez@HoustonsFirst.org)

## SIENNA CAMPUS

### MIDLINK — SESSION 2

Begins Wed, Mar 21 @ 6:30-8p — Sienna Campus  
MidLink is the overall name for everything that goes on on Wednesday nights at the Sienna Campus. Adults can choose from a variety of Milestones classes, including Biblical Worldview 101, Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts Through PLACE, 10 Men of the Bible (men), At His Feet (women), and *The Grown-Up's Guide to Teenage Humans*. And, there are activities for birth through 12th grade, too. Register for Milestones classes at [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org).  
CONTACT: [Kelli.Boylan@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Kelli.Boylan@HoustonsFirst.org)

FIND MORE ABOUT THESE AND  
OTHER OPPORTUNITIES ONLINE  
OR ON OUR APP.



# WHERE YOU'LL FIND US

Houston's First Baptist Church has numerous locations around town. But with members from all across the greater Houston area living out their faith and making a difference in their homes, schools and offices, the church's ministry extends far beyond the addresses listed below!

## THE LOOP CAMPUS 7401 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77024



Gregg Matte, Pastor

[Houston's First](#) [@HoustonsFirst](#) [@HoustonsFirst](#)

## CYPRESS CAMPUS 11011 Mason Rd, Cypress, TX 77433 (Next to Bridgeland High School)



Jason Swiggart, Campus Pastor

[Houston's First Cypress](#) [@HFBC Cypress](#) [@HFBC Cypress](#)

## DOWNTOWN CAMPUS 1730 Jefferson, Houston, TX 77003



Lee Hsia, Campus Pastor

[HFBC Downtown](#) [@HFBC Downtown](#) [@HFBC Downtown](#)

## ESPAÑOL CAMPUS 7401 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77024



Juan Alaniz, Campus Pastor

[Houston's First Español](#) [@HFBC Español](#) [@HoustonsFirst](#)

## SIENNA CAMPUS 4309 Sienna Parkway, Missouri City, TX 77459



Malcolm Marshall, Campus Pastor

[Houston's First Sienna](#) [@HFBC Sienna](#) [@HFBC Sienna](#)

## OUR SIGNATURE STATEMENT

Houston's First Baptist Church is a relevant biblical community where people gather their hearts, grow their souls and give their lives as we seek to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

### RELEVANT

Having the passion, desire and ability to build necessary bridges to move people from culture to Christ.

### BIBLICAL

Fully embracing the beliefs and values revealed in the Bible as true, eternal and life-changing.

### COMMUNITY

Providing a place to be authentic, involved, impacted and impactful.

## JOINING HOUSTON'S FIRST

Membership at Houston's First is open to anyone who has placed their faith in Jesus Christ alone for the forgiveness of their sins and has been baptized by immersion at our church or by a body of believers of like faith and practice. If you have not already done so, we can assist you with these decisions. At the end of the worship service, come forward to speak with a minister or volunteer, or make your way to the Connection Center at your campus. They will walk you through the process of making Houston's First your church!

## LIFE BIBLE STUDIES

Life Bible Studies are the primary method for connecting with others in smaller settings and growing together at Houston's First. Visit [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org) to explore the many options, or ask a Guest Experience Team member at your campus for assistance in finding one that's right for you.

For more information about Houston's First, call 713.681.8000 or visit [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org).

## SUNDAYS AT HOUSTON'S FIRST

### The Loop Campus

Worship 9:15a • 11a • 5p  
Life Bible Studies 8a • 9:15a • 10:45a • 6:30p

### Cypress Campus

Worship 9:30a • 11a  
Life Bible Studies 8a • 9:30a • 11a

### Downtown Campus

Worship 11a  
Life Bible Studies 9:30a

### Español Campus

Worship 5p  
Life Bible Studies 6:30p

### Sienna Campus

Worship 9:30a • 11a  
Life Bible Studies 9:30a • 11a

Gregg Matte, Pastor [HoustonsFirst.org](http://HoustonsFirst.org)

[GreggMatte](#) [Houston's First](#)  
[@GreggMatte](#) [@HoustonsFirst](#)  
[@PastorGregg](#) [@HoustonsFirst](#)