PURPOSE PEOPLE

A MESSAGE SERIES BY GREGG MATTE

Part One

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4 (p. 837)

May 3, 2009 • Pastor Gregg Matte

Written by Paul in Corinth in 51-52 AD within 12 months of 1 Thessalonians. Prosperous Port City on Via Aganatia (trade route)

• Life's Big Switch: ***The*** Father to <u>our</u> Father.
1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:1 (p. 835; 837)

- Ignoring His grace forfeits His peace.
Romans 1:7 (p. 795)

• <u>True</u> gratitude is based on growing faith and love not circumstances.
1 Peter 1:6; 2 John 4 (p. 857; 864)

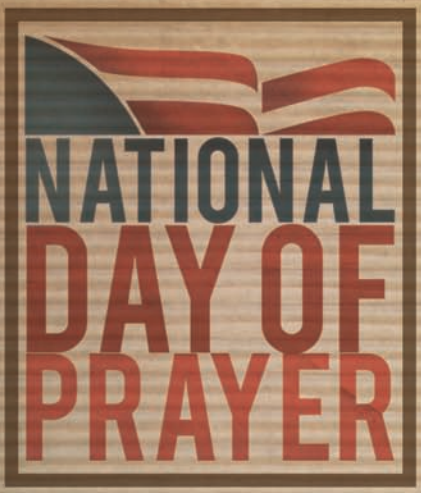
- We live too <u>shallow</u>.
Hebrews 5:11-6:2; Daniel 2:22; Psalm 92:5 (p. 848; 626; 425)

- <u>Celebrate</u> the right things.
Luke 15:32 (p. 740)

• Gratitude brings <u>grit</u>.
James 1:2-4; Matthew 5:12 (p. 854; 683)

- Our flesh wants to avoid <u>faith</u> but our soul needs it to live.

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America observes the 58th annual National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 7, 2009. Bible study teacher and HFBC member Beth Moore serves as this year's national Honorary Chairman along with Chairman Shirley Dobson.

Here at home, Houston's First Baptist Church is sponsoring prayer gatherings in locations throughout our city. Members and their guests are encouraged to join with others from Houston's First as we gather at the locations below to pray for our nation. Stay for the entire hour-and-a-half, or drop by for just a few minutes. Regardless of how long you can stay, know that there is great power when we unite in prayer.

Additional details about each location are available at HoustonsFirst.org (Prayer). We ask for an RSVP so the hosts of each location know how many to expect. (If you're able to come at the last minute, please stop by!) For now, block out some time on your calendar on May 7 to gather with Houston's First!

Houston's First Baptist Church
Prayer, Missions and Connection Center
7401 Katy Freeway, Suite 144
Staff Prayer Leader: William Taylor

Downtown
Houston Pregnancy Help Center
3636 San Jacinto
Staff Prayer Leader: Malcolm Marshall

Greenway Plaza
12 Greenway Plaza – 10th Floor
Staff Prayer Leader: Jason Swiggart

Spring Branch
Long Point Baptist Church Sanctuary
8009 Long Point Road
Staff Prayer Leader: David Self

Woodway
One Riverway
777 South Post Oak Lane
Suite 2080
(20th Floor Conference Room)
Staff Prayer Leader: Stephen Smith

Southeast
University of Houston
AD Bruce Religion Center (Building 562)
Staff Prayer Leader: Rick Jones

Galleria
Williams Tower – 6th Floor
Staff Prayer Leader: Pastor Gregg Matte

Southwest
Houston Baptist University
Hinton Building, Room 135
Staff Prayer Leader: Steve Knox

Midtown
Rice University, Rice Chapel
Staff Prayer Leader: Lee Hsia

Texas Medical Center
Mary Gibbs Jones Building
Room #MGJ2-008
Staff Prayer Leader: Steven Murray

City-Wide Gathering
In addition to these sites hosted by Houston's First, a city-wide gathering is scheduled for noon to 1 pm in front of Houston's City Hall in downtown (901 Bagby).