

## DEVOTIONS

*Think about devotions is as a continuation of our community's worship. The following basic pattern could be one way of forming your household's devotions. Adapt as necessary!*

### GATHERING

✠ Light a candle to help you focus this time as "God time."

#### ✠ Prayer of the Week

From the beginning, God, you were there. You have created this world and called it good. Help us to seek what is good and protect us from all evil. Help us to see the good in others and forgive us when we do not. Teach us your ways, O Lord, so we can spread your love to a hurting world. Amen.

### CARING CONVERSATION

*Take a moment to check in with each other or to use the questions below.*

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** What is one thing you saw today that was good? What is one thing you saw today that was mean?
- ❓ **Thinking About This Week's Story:** Jesus restored a demon possessed man. Each and every day, Jesus restores our hearts through forgiveness and love. We can restore, or make right, our relationships with others through forgiveness and love. Who do you need to forgive today? Who needs to forgive you?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Who has been sick at your work, in your class, or in your family today? Say a small prayer for them.

### DAILY BIBLE READING

*Read aloud from the DAILY BIBLE READING from the front. What do you want to remember from this reading?*

### PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Together hold hands and say the Lord's Prayer.

### CLOSING

✠ If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotion time.

#### ✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

*Mark one another with the sign of the cross on each other's hands or forehead, and say, "You have been blessed by God's love. Go and be a blessing to others. Amen."*

The "Four Key Faith Practices"—Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals & Traditions—are a framework developed by the Rev. Dr. David Anderson of Milestones Ministry and used by permission from Vibrant Faith Ministries, Bloomington, MN ([www.vibrantfaith.org](http://www.vibrantfaith.org)). For more information about the Four Keys, go to <http://milestonesministry.org/>.

JANUARY 26, 2020

Mark 5:1-20



# Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy [God] has shown you.

- Mark 5:19

### MEALTIME PRAYER

You, God, give us everything we need — food for our bodies, sleep for our soul, and protection from evil. Thank you for your goodness and love. Amen.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What do you think is the point of each story?***

Sunday	Mark 5:14-20	Talk of the Decapolis
Monday	Psalms 103:1-5	Blessed the LORD, O My Soul
Tuesday	Psalms 103:6-14	The LORD's Steadfast Love
Wednesday	Psalms 103:15-22	The Everlasting Love of God
Thursday	Psalms 23	The LORD is My Shepherd
Friday	Psalms 1	The Righteous Way
Saturday	Mark 5:21-34	A Woman Healed
Sunday	Mark 5:35-43	A Girl Raised

*If your household includes younger children, use a child-friendly Bible. You might find that the children's Bible you are using may not include the very story assigned for the DAILY BIBLE READINGS. **Read to your kids anyway. Just pick a story!***

### SERVICE CHALLENGE

*SERVICE is how we enact God's great love for the entire world.*

Make a list of friends that need a special phone call or email or text from you. Try to send a quick encouraging word to one person each day.