

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

God of Power and Might—With your word, you gave us purpose. With your son, you gave us grace, mercy, and salvation. With your Spirit, you gave us life. Be with us this day from morning to night, and give us a willing and able spirit to share your love with those who we will meet today. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** Name one thing you saw today that made happy. Name one thing you saw today that made you sad.
- ❓ **Thinking About This Week's Story:** Jesus ascends to heaven. But before he does, he sends out the disciples with the expectation that they will share God's love with others and tell his story of salvation. Name one way you will share God's love with others today.
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Who in your office, class, or home is sick today? Say a prayer for healing for each person named.

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Hold each other's hands. Pray together either silently or aloud, and end with "Amen!"

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, "Your God commissions you to be a disciple of Christ and to share God's love with all people."

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). For more information about the Four Keys, go to <http://milestonesministry.org/>.

April 19, 2020

Acts 1:1-14



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth."

- Acts 1:8

MEALTIME PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit, come. Stir within us this day a love so great we need to share it with the world. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Dine with us this day and send us forth with shouts of joy. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **How do people share the good news of Jesus Christ with others in each story?***

Sunday	Acts 1:1-14	Jesus Commissions the Disciples
Monday	Acts 1:15-20	The Fate of Judas
Tuesday	Acts 1:21-26	The Addition of Matthias
Wednesday	Acts 2:1-13	Pentecost and the Holy Spirit
Thursday	Acts 2:14-21	Peter Preaches
Friday	Acts 2:37-42	Repentance and Baptism
Saturday	Acts 2:43-47	Life in the Early Church
Sunday	Acts 3:1-10	Peter Heals

*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.

Create a list of seven people who need God's love this week. Pick one person a day and tell them about God's love for them either via email, text, or phone.