

DEVOTIONS

Think about devotions 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, even though you make yourself clear, sometimes we just do not or cannot follow your directions. Bless us this week to have ears to hear, eyes to see, and hearts that are willing. Amen

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** What is something that made you happy today? What is something that made you sad or angry?
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Throughout his lifetime, Samuel represents an honest, obedient leader. When have you led today? When have you followed?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Psalm 51 says that David asks God to give him a clean heart. What is a mistake or bad choice you made today? What was a good choice?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✦ God of love and light, help us to hear your voice and to trust you with all our might. Let us remember that your ways are not our ways and that we should lean not on our own understanding. 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

Sit in silence with your eyes closed for a few moments. Each person take a deep breath and one by one, say out loud, "Be still and know that the Lord is God."

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/>.

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1 Samuel 3:1-21



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"Speak, for your servant is listening."

—1 Samuel 3:10

MEALTIME PRAYER

God of all things, we thank you for being our creator, one who calls us by name. Let us hear your loving word, and share with all we meet. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Filling in the gaps. A thought to consider as you read: **You will read passages this week that ask for obedience. Think of ways you could become more open to God's word.**

Sunday	1 Samuel 3:1-21	God Calls Samuel
Monday	1 Samuel 7: 3-17	Samuel's Role in Israel
Tuesday	1 Samuel 8: 1-22	Israel Demands a King
Wednesday	1 Samuel 10:17-27	Saul Is Named King of Israel
Thursday	1 Samuel 12: 1-25	Samuel's Farewell
Friday	1 Samuel 13:1-15	Saul's Unlawful Sacrifice
Saturday	1 Samuel 15:1-35	Saul Is Rejected as King
Sunday	1 Samuel 16:1-13	God Chooses David
	Psalms 51:10-14	

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.

God called Samuel to speak God's word to the people. Who can you call this week to show your care and support?