

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 of all things, we give you honor, praise and glory. May we go forth appreciating each and every good thing you give us, each and every day. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** What is one thing that was good about today? What was something that might need God's forgiveness?
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Isaiah 55:9 tells us that God's thoughts and ways are beyond what we can understand. What is something that you had a hard time understanding today? What was something that was clear?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Next week's Scripture talks about the light shining and the darkness not being able to overcome it. Where have you seen darkness today? Where have you seen light?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ In your prayers, ask God to help those who do not have enough to eat or drink, to send people to provide these good things.

CLOSING

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

✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

With permission, mark one another with the sign of the cross each other's hands or forehead, and say, "**May you experience the goodness of God today.**"

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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Isaiah 55:1-11



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Seek the Lord while [God] may be found, call upon [God] while [God] is near.

—Isaiah 55:6

MEALTIME PRAYER

God, you are the source of all of our food. Let us give thanks for all that we have, especially your love. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Filling in the gaps. A question to ask as you read: How do these Bible passages this week highlight the beauty and order of all of God's creation?

Sunday	Isaiah 55:1-11	Seek the Lord
Monday	Proverbs 8:1, 22-26	Wisdom in Creation
Tuesday	Proverbs 8:27-31	Wisdom at Creation
Wednesday	Psalms 8:1-9	A Psalm of Creation
Thursday	Isaiah 11:1-9	Prophecy of the Messiah
Friday	Luke 1:26-38	The Annunciation
Saturday	Luke 1:46-55	The Magnificat
Sunday	John 1:1-18	The Word Became Flesh

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 "Blessing Boxes" filled with personal items (hygiene items, socks, adhesive bandages) and hand them out to those who need them.