

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

The voice cries out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord." Dear God, help us to be that voice, to tell others about your birth and about your love for this world. Thank you for giving us the faith to do just that. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** Name one thing that made you happy today. Name one thing that made you sad.
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** John announces several things about Jesus including his coming into the world, his baptism and his testimony about Jesus being the Son of God. How have you represented Jesus in your life today? How have you not represented Jesus today?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Jesus calls the disciples to follow him. Jesus calls you, too, to be his disciples. How have you followed Jesus today?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Say together: Baptized into the faith of God, help us to share God's love with others. 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

With permission, mark one another with the sign of the cross each other's hands or forehead with water, and say, "Go and tell others about the Son of God. Amen."

December 26, 2021

John 1:19-34



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

—John 1:34

MEALTIME PRAYER

In the wilderness, you fed John with locusts and honey, dear Lord. In our wilderness, you feed us with the bounty on this table. With your love and grace, please bless this food to our bodies and us to your work. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

A question for you as you read: What is God doing or not doing in each of these stories?

Sunday	John 1:19-34	The Lamb of God
Monday	2 Kings 1:7-8	Description of Elijah
Tuesday	Malachi 4:5-6	God Will Send Elijah
Wednesday	Luke 3:1-18	John the Baptist Preaches
Thursday	Matthew 3:13-17	Jesus Is Baptized
Friday	Matthew 4:1-11	Temptation in the Wilderness
Saturday	Matthew 4:12-17	Jesus Begins His Ministry
Sunday	John 1:35-51	Come and See

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.

Donate a package of bottled water to a local food pantry or keep a package of bottled water in your car to give to those in need that you encounter this week.