

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 promise, the promise you made to Abram was not just for Abram and his family. You made promises to them so that the whole world would be blessed. Thank you, Lord, for your blessings in our lives. Continue to call us so that we may come to understand those blessings in such a way that others are blessed by you through us. 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 feel loved today. Name one thing that made you feel not so loved today.
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Blessing can be defined as a good gift. Name one way that you felt God's blessings for you today.
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Joseph has to deal with some people who made life hard for him. There will be times, too, in our lives when people make life hard for us. Did you or someone you know experience a hard moment today? If so, how was it handled? What might you do differently next time?

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 hands, and say together this prayer: Bless this circle of love, O God. May your love hold us together. Help us to share your love with everyone. 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, and say, "God blesses you so that you can bless 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). For more information about the Four Keys, go to <http://milestonesministry.org/>.

September 18, 2022

Genesis 12:1-9



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing."

- Genesis 12:2

MEALTIME PRAYER

God, bless this food and drink to our bodies, and bless us to be about your love and work in the world. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Something to consider as you read: **What are the people doing in each story? What is God doing in each story?**

Sunday	Genesis 12:1-9	God Calls Abram
Monday	Genesis 18:1-15	The Promise Is Given Again
Tuesday	Genesis 21:1-8	The Promised Child is Born
Wednesday	Genesis 25:19-34	The Quarrelling Brothers: Jacob and Esau
Thursday	Genesis 33:1-15	The Reconciled Brothers: Jacob and Esau
Friday	Genesis 37:1-24	Joseph's Dreams
Saturday	Genesis 37:25-36	The Dreamer in Trouble
Sunday	Genesis 39:1-23	Joseph's Hope

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 the different ways people in your family can serve one another. Ideas could include prayer, helping with a chore, or cooking a meal. Once done, have each person pick one idea from the list that they could do. Hold each other accountable by checking in with each other at the end of the week.