

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

Creating God, with a word you created all that is. From deep, life-giving soil, you have molded and shaped all living things. You have set us in the middle of it all to tend and to care for what you have made. Remind us that you do indeed care for the earth, that we too might share in that caring. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** What is one good thing that happened today? What is one not-so-good thing that happened?
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** God made everything in creation including people, and as God's people we are to help one another. Can you name one way that you helped someone today? Can you name something that was not helpful today?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Sarah laughs when God announces that she will have a son. Did you hear something today that made you laugh? What was it?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Have each person fill in the blank of this prayer: Dear God, thank you for [name one person] because [say why you are thankful for that person]. 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, "You have been created by God to care for all creation. 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 10, 2023

Genesis 2:4b-25



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner."

- Genesis 2:18

MEALTIME PRAYER

Creator God, we thank you for the food you have set before us. We thank you for the helpful hands that made this meal. Be with us this day, O God. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What are God and the people doing in each story?***

Sunday	Genesis 2:4b-25	God Creates Humans
Monday	Genesis 3:1-21	The First Sin
Tuesday	Genesis 11:27-32	Introducing Abram and Sarai
Wednesday	Genesis 12:1-9	God's Promise to Abram
Thursday	Genesis 14:14-20	Battle and Blessing
Friday	Genesis 17:1-8	A New Name
Saturday	Genesis 17:15-22	The Promise of a Child
Sunday	Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7	God Gives a Promised Child

*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.

Be helpful neighbors this week by bringing your neighbors a plate of cookies, helping with minor yardwork, or sweeping their sidewalks.