

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, through the words of Jeremiah, you promised to bring forth a new king from the line of David. Your Son, Jesus, is that promised king. We pray as we wait to celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus, and that through him your love and justice would prevail. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** Name one new thing that happened today. Name one boring thing that happened today.
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** God's people were living in exile — nowhere near their homeland. Jeremiah's role was to share some good news with the people that God had not forgotten them. What good news did you hear today?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** A shepherd is someone who protects and cares for their sheep. Who cared for you today? What did they do for you?

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: Dear God, Each day we see new things. Today I saw _____. Thank you for opening my eyes to new things. Amen.

CLOSING

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

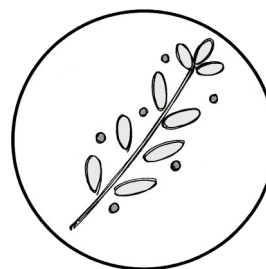
✚ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

With permission, mark one another with the sign of the cross each other's hands or forehead, and say, "Bless those you meet with a word of good news! 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/>.

DECEMBER 3, 2023

Jeremiah 33:14-18



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

- Jeremiah 33:15

MEALTIME PRAYER

We wait for you, dear God, to shine light into our tired world. We wait for you, dear God, to bless our tired souls. We wait for you, dear God, to come and dine with us today. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What can I learn from these stories?**

Sunday	Jeremiah 33:14-18	A Righteous Branch from David
Monday	Daniel 1:1-7	Young Jews in Exile
Tuesday	Daniel 1:8-17	Faithful Living in a New Land
Wednesday	Daniel 1:18-21	The Wise Exiles
Thursday	Daniel 3:1-7	Worship the Golden Statue
Friday	Daniel 3:8-18	Three Faithful Men
Saturday	Daniel 3:19-30	The Fiery Furnace
Sunday	Isaiah 40:1-11	Comfort, Comfort My People

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.

Volunteer to water the plants at your church, school, or work for the week.