

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

God, in our baptisms, you name us "children of God," and you promise that you wrestle with the world on our behalf. Stir up your Spirit in our hearts and minds so that we remember these promises 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 went well today? What is one that you wrestled with today?
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Jacob was worried about meeting his brother Esau because Jacob had cheated his brother years before. Sometimes we can describe worry, fear, or anger as a "wrestling match." Did something happen today that made you worry, fearful, or angry? What happened? What did you do about it?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Did you try to talk to someone today, but they do not seem to be listening? Who was it? What did you do to get their attention?

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 a thumb-wrestling match and as you wrestle, pray for your opponent. When someone wins, say "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, "[Name], you belong to God, and God will bless and keep you always. 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 24, 2023

Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed."

- Genesis 32:28

MEALTIME PRAYER

Guide us to feel your love, dear God, and strengthen our bodies with your nourishing food and thirst-quenching water. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30	Jacob Wrestles
Monday	Genesis 33:1-11	Jacob and Esau Are Reconciled
Tuesday	Genesis 41:1-24	Pharaoh's Dream
Wednesday	Genesis 41:25-36	Joseph to the Rescue
Thursday	Genesis 41:37-45	Joseph Is Exalted
Friday	Exodus 1:8-14	Enslaved in Egypt
Saturday	Exodus 1:15-2:10	Defiant and Dauntless Women
Sunday	Exodus 3:1-15	Moses and the Burning Bush

*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.

This week, be on the lookout for someone who is wrestling with a problem: personal, school-related, job-related, or another kind of difficulty. Share with your household (maintaining the individual's privacy) and brainstorm together a plan to help.