

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, you love us whether we deserve it or not, and your love never ends. When we turn away from you, gently remind us to turn around and return to your path of love and service. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs and Lows:** What or who distracted you at work, school or home today? How were you a distraction when someone else was trying to work, study, or play?
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** God became angry when the Israelites started worshipping a golden calf rather than the true God. God wants us to put God first, before anything else. What was something that distracted you from putting God first in your life today?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Hannah wanted a child, and God blessed her with a son named Samuel. Because of this, she sings a song of praise to God. What is one thing that made you want to dance and sing before God 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

✠ For two minutes, turn off all distractions and lights. Say a quiet prayer at the end of the time.

CLOSING

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

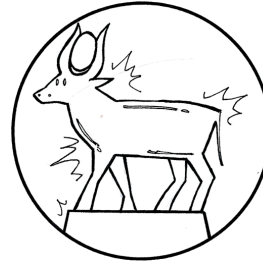
✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

Hold your hands out with palms up and say, "With these hands ready to serve, send us out, God, with your love."

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/>.

OCTOBER 6, 2024

Exodus 32:1-14



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

And the LORD changed [God's] mind about the disaster that [God] planned to bring on [God's] people.

– Exodus 32:14

MEALTIME PRAYER

God of goodness, you took care of your people while they traveled in the wilderness with food to eat and water to drink. Bless the food on our table and bless all of the hands through which you provide them, from field to kitchen. We ask that you be with us as we eat and be with those who are hungry. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

As you read, ask yourself: **What is God doing in each of these stories?**

Sunday	Exodus 32:1-14	The Golden Calf
Monday	Exodus 32:15-20; 34:1-10	Moses Makes New Tablets
Tuesday	Deuteronomy 1:19-33	Israel's Refusal to Enter the Land
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 1:34-40; 2:1-8	Israel's Years in the Desert
Thursday	Deuteronomy 6:1-9	The Great Commandment
Friday	Joshua 1:1-9	God's Call to Joshua
Saturday	Joshua 23:1-15	Joshua's Wisdom to the People
Sunday	1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10	Hannah and Samuel

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.

Like the Israelites, it is easy to get distracted with other things. Pick a night this week to turn off all electronics and do something together as a family (talk, cook, or play together). Let your service be to one another.