

**SHARING GOD’S STORY @ HOME**

**SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK** – <sup>7</sup>We have been ransomed through his Son’s blood, and we have forgiveness for our failures based on his overflowing grace, <sup>8</sup>which he poured over us with wisdom and understanding. ~Ephesians 1:7-8 CEB

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK** - Gracious and merciful God, you have forgiven us more than we could ever repay. Teach us to walk in the way of grace, releasing bitterness, and embracing the freedom that forgiveness brings. When the wounds feel too deep or the memories too sharp, remind us that you are our Healer and Teacher. Help us grow in the school of forgiveness—not as experts, but as willing students shaped by your love. Form us into people who reflect your mercy in our families, our neighborhoods, and even toward those who have wronged us. In the name of Jesus, our Savior and Forgiver. Amen.

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: What do you think is the point of each story?*

<b>SUNDAY</b>	Ephesians 1:7-8	<b>THURSDAY</b>	Matthew 18:21-22
<b>MONDAY</b>	<a href="#">Luke 6:37</a>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	2 Corinthians 5:18-19
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Matthew 6:12	<b>SATURDAY</b>	Psalms 103:10-12
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Colossians 3:13	<b>SUNDAY</b>	Philippians 2:1-14

*\*If your household includes younger children, use a child-friendly Bible. You might find that the children’s Bible you use may not include the 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.*

**Forgiveness Postcard Project**

Invite church members to write anonymous notes of forgiveness, healing, or release—addressed to a person, situation, or community—on a postcard.

Variation: Invite the congregation to mail a card to someone they want to offer peace or reconciliation—even if the person may never respond. The act itself is healing.

*Think about devotions as a continuation of our 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**

**CARING CONVERSATION**

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

- **Highs & Lows:** Name one thing you saw today that made you happy. Name one thing you saw today that made you sad.
- **Thinking about This Week’s Story:** Forgiveness isn’t easy—but it’s essential. This week, we explore forgiveness as a spiritual discipline, a way of life rooted in grace, and a path toward reconciliation. Just as we are forgiven, we are called to forgive—even when it’s hard—trusting that healing begins when we let go of revenge and open ourselves to grace.
- **Getting Ready for Next Week’s Story:** Spiritual growth doesn’t happen by accident—it takes daily effort, grace, and intention. This week reminds us that God’s love meets us where we are but also calls us deeper. Through small, faithful practices like prayer, kindness, and reflection, we are shaped into the likeness of Christ day by day.

**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 each other’s hands. Pray together, either silently or aloud, and end with “Amen!”**

**CLOSING**

- **Extinguish the candle 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 on each other’s hands or forehead, and say, **"Go in the grace of Christ, forgiven and free to forgive. May mercy guide your steps and love shape your path. 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 with permission from Vibrant Faith Ministries, Bloomington, MN ([www.vibrantfaith.org](http://www.vibrantfaith.org)).*

**SHARING GOD’S STORY @ HOME**

**SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK** – <sup>7</sup>We have been ransomed through his Son’s blood, and we have forgiveness for our failures based on his overflowing grace, <sup>8</sup>which he poured over us with wisdom and understanding. ~Ephesians 1:7-8 CEB

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK** - Gracious and merciful God, you have forgiven us more than we could ever repay. Teach us to walk in the way of grace, releasing bitterness, and embracing the freedom that forgiveness brings. When the wounds feel too deep or the memories too sharp, remind us that you are our Healer and Teacher. Help us grow in the school of forgiveness—not as experts, but as willing students shaped by your love. Form us into people who reflect your mercy in our families, our neighborhoods, and even toward those who have wronged us. In the name of Jesus, our Savior and Forgiver. Amen.

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: What do you think is the point of each story?*

<b>SUNDAY</b>	Ephesians 1:7-8	<b>THURSDAY</b>	Matthew 18:21-22
<b>MONDAY</b>	<a href="#">Luke 6:37</a>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	2 Corinthians 5:18-19
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Matthew 6:12	<b>SATURDAY</b>	Psalms 103:10-12
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Colossians 3:13	<b>SUNDAY</b>	Philippians 2:1-14

*\*If your household includes younger children, use a child-friendly Bible. You might find that the children’s Bible you use may not include the 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.*

**Forgiveness Postcard Project**

Invite church members to write anonymous notes of forgiveness, healing, or release—addressed to a person, situation, or community—on a postcard.

Variation: Invite the congregation to mail a card to someone they want to offer peace or reconciliation—even if the person may never respond. The act itself is healing.

*Think about devotions as a continuation of our 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**

**CARING CONVERSATION**

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

- **Highs & Lows:** Name one thing you saw today that made you happy. Name one thing you saw today that made you sad.
- **Thinking about This Week’s Story:** Forgiveness isn’t easy—but it’s essential. This week, we explore forgiveness as a spiritual discipline, a way of life rooted in grace, and a path toward reconciliation. Just as we are forgiven, we are called to forgive—even when it’s hard—trusting that healing begins when we let go of revenge and open ourselves to grace.
- **Getting Ready for Next Week’s Story:** Spiritual growth doesn’t happen by accident—it takes daily effort, grace, and intention. This week reminds us that God’s love meets us where we are but also calls us deeper. Through small, faithful practices like prayer, kindness, and reflection, we are shaped into the likeness of Christ day by day.

**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 each other’s hands. Pray together, either silently or aloud, and end with “Amen!”**

**CLOSING**

- **Extinguish the candle 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 on each other’s hands or forehead, and say, **"Go in the grace of Christ, forgiven and free to forgive. May mercy guide your steps and love shape your path. 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 with permission from Vibrant Faith Ministries, Bloomington, MN ([www.vibrantfaith.org](http://www.vibrantfaith.org)).*