

## 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, when the world feels like it is falling apart and stands divided, please draw near to us. Help us to be servants of your love and caretakers of your creation. We pray for our national and local leaders, that they would turn to you for guidance and unity. 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 divided you from your family or friends today? What is one thing that united you all today?
- ❓ **Thinking About This Week's Story:** We have many leaders around us—political leaders, law enforcement officials, teachers, pastors, and more! Each day, name some of the leaders in your life. What makes them a good leader?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** God's people turned from God's word and started to worship a statue named Baal. We, too, sometimes forget to put God first in our lives. Can you name one thing that happened today that kept you from following God?

### DAILY BIBLE READING

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

### PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Do a group hug and have one person say a prayer for the whole group. At the end, everyone says "Amen."

### CLOSING

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

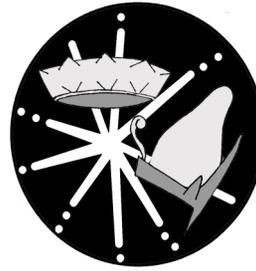
#### ✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

*Mark one another with the sign of the cross on each other's hands or forehead, and say, "May you be an instrument of God's peace; go forth this day with joy and love. 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](http://www.vibrantfaith.org)). For more information about the Four Keys, go to <http://milestonesministry.org/>.

OCTOBER 27, 2019

1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29



# Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

[The elders] answered him, "If you will be a servant to this people today and serve them...then they will be your servants forever."

- 1 Kings 12:7

### MEALTIME PRAYER

Sometimes, dear God, we sit around the table separated from each other, and we do not always agree on everything. But as we dine, divided or not, we all come together knowing we have you to thank for our meal and our lives. Amen.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What makes sense in the story? Where are the gaps in the story?***

Sunday	1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29	The Kingdom Divided
Monday	1 Kings 16:29-33	Ahab's Evil Actions
Tuesday	1 Kings 17:1-7	Elijah Announces a Drought
Wednesday	1 Kings 17:8-16	Elijah and the Widow
Thursday	1 Kings 17:17-24	The Widow's Son
Friday	1 Kings 18:1-6	The Good Man Obadiah
Saturday	1 Kings 18:7-16	Elijah and Obadiah
Sunday	1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39	Fire from Heaven

*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.*

Make a list of your local and national leaders. Place the list on the refrigerator and each day say a prayer for them, whether you agree with them or not.