

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, your word tells us that there is always a risk to the mission you have given your church. If your own people rejected your Son, we can expect the same. Open our hearts with kindness and mercy. Open the hearts of those with whom we come into contact, that in our words and actions, others may also know your love. 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 sent you away laughing today? What is one thing that sent you away crying?
- ? **Thinking About This Week's Story:** In today's story, Jesus sent out his disciples two-by-two to share God's love with everyone. As they entered a new town, they were completely reliant on the hospitality and welcome of others. Each day this week, tell about how someone welcomed you either at school, at a friend's house, greeted at work, or by the family.
- ? **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Name one way you showed love today to someone? Who showed love to 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 finish this prayer: Dear God, send me out today to share your love with [name one person]. Amen.

CLOSING

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

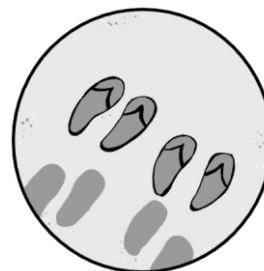
✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

Mark one another with the sign of the cross on each other's hands or forehead, and say, "You have been called and sent into the world to share God's love with others. Go and love one another. 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/>.

FEBRUARY 9, 2020

Mark 6:1-29



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

[Jesus] called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.

- Mark 6:7

MEALTIME PRAYER

We wash our hands, dear God, before we eat. But it is you who cleans our hearts, and sends us out to share your love with a hurting world. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 6:7-13	Sending Out the Twelve
Monday	Mark 6:30-34	Jesus Seeks Time Away
Tuesday	Mark 6:35-44	Feeding the Multitudes
Wednesday	Mark 6:45-56	Walking on Water
Thursday	Psalms 89:5-11	Who Rules the Sea?
Friday	Mark 7:1-8	Scribes and Pharisees
Saturday	Mark 7:9-13	The Spirit of the Commandment
Sunday	Mark 7:14-23	What Makes You Clean

*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.

Show some hospitality this week to someone by inviting them over to your house for a meal, dessert, or just to visit.