

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, you come to us over and over again, through people who need our love and who give us love. We keep rejecting you. Have mercy on us and forgive us. Thank you for your unconditional love that overcomes all of our sins. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** What is one way you were shown love today? What is one way you were shown rejection?
- ❓ **Thinking About This Week's Story:** Jesus experienced rejection from the religious leaders. Sometimes we reject Jesus, too, when we do not follow his commandments. How did you follow Jesus today? How did you fail to follow Jesus?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Jesus said to love your neighbor as yourself. How did you love someone today? Share an example.

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

- ✠ Ask each person to think of something they did wrong today. Go around, each person saying that thing aloud or silently, ending with "Lord, forgive me." Everyone else responds by saying, "You are forgiven."

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 each other's hands, and say, "God forgives all of your sins. 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/>.

MARCH 15, 2020

Mark 12:1-12 [13-17]



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone
- Mark 12:10

MEALTIME PRAYER

Build us up, O God! You give us good food to eat to nourish our bodies, and you give us your good word to heal our souls. Continue the work you started within us this day and everyday. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What do you find interesting in each story?***

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday | Mark 12:13-17 | Taxes to the Emperor |
| Monday | Mark 12:18-27 | Debate on the Resurrection |
| Tuesday | Mark 12:28-34 | The Greatest Commandment |
| Wednesday | Deuteronomy 6:1-5 | Hear, O Israel |
| Thursday | Leviticus 19:13-18 | Love Your Neighbor |
| Friday | Hosea 6:1-6 | Steadfast Love, Not Sacrifice |
| Saturday | Mark 12:35-40 | Son of David |
| Sunday | Mark 12:41-44 | The Widow's Gift |

*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.

Turn over a new stone today! Clean out a garden bed, a closet, or a drawer to declutter.