

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 who gathers us together, your people come from all corners of the earth. Yet you seek to give hope and peace to any who would believe. Grant us thankfulness for your church, and never allow us to call bad what you have made good. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** Name one way you cleaned up after yourself today. Name one way you made a mess.
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** In the story of Peter and Cornelius, Acts tells us that Cornelius was a Roman soldier, an outsider who had become a valued and respected member of the community. How have you acted like a valued and respected member of the community today?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Paul heals a man that had been injured since birth. It was a miracle! Miracles happen every day if we look closely. Did you see a miracle today? A newborn baby? A butterfly?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Dear God, please continue to love and forgive [say each person's name]. Keep us safe and close to each other. 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

With permission, mark one another with the sign of the cross on the forehead, and say, "Child of God, you have been made clean. 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/>.

April 23, 2023

Acts 10:1-17, 34-48



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears [God] and does what is right is acceptable to [God]."

- Acts 10:34-35

MEALTIME PRAYER

Through food that grows, we can cook and eat. Through the water we receive, we never thirst. Through family, friends, and faith, we can love each other. All this because of you, O God. Thank you. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Something to consider as you read: **What are the people doing in each story? What is God doing in each story?**

Sunday	Acts 10:1-17, 34-48	Peter's Vision
Monday	Acts 11:19-26	Proclaiming Jesus in Antioch
Tuesday	Acts 12:1-5	Herod against the Church, Part 1
Wednesday	Acts 12:6-11	Herod against the Church, Part 2
Thursday	Acts 12:12-19	Herod against the Church, Part 3
Friday	Acts 12:20-25	Herod against the Church, Part 4
Saturday	Psalms 146:1-7	Trust God, Not Rulers
Sunday	Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18	Paul and Barnabas Commissioned

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.

Donate your favorite snack crackers and soup to a local food shelf.