

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 calls and sends, your Holy Spirit is constantly calling to us. We are called to serve you in so many ways and in so many places. Remind us that all of us are called. Equip us, then, to grow in faith and practice so we may respond in love and willingness to serve you and others. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** As you journeyed through life today, what was one good thing and one not so good thing that happened today?
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Paul and Barnabas traveled far by foot to share the love of God with others. Where did your feet take you today? Did you share your love with someone today?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** As God's people's, we are called to live faithful lives. Being faithful means we help our neighbors, listen to others, and care for one another. How were you faithful today?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Be with me, God, as I go to [name the place where each person will go next]. Be with me always. Amen.

CLOSING

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

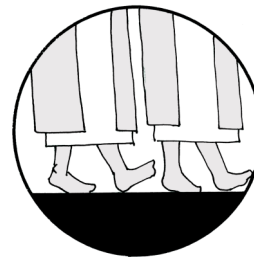
✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

With permission, mark one another with the sign of the cross on the forehead, and say, "Child of God, you have been sent out to do God's work. 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 30, 2023

Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

- Acts 13:2

MEALTIME PRAYER

Wherever we are on our journey in life, be with us, O God. Be with us when we eat, and be with us when we sleep. We thank you for never leaving us. 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 13:1-3; 14:8-18	Paul and Barnabas Commissioned
Monday	Acts 15:36-41	Paul and Silas
Tuesday	Acts 16:1-10	On the Road...with Timothy
Wednesday	Acts 16:11-15	Philippi and Lydia
Thursday	Acts 16:16-24	An Exorcism, Riot, and Jail
Friday	Acts 16:25-34	Jail and Earthquake
Saturday	Acts 16:35-40	Freedom in the Morning
Sunday	Romans 1:1-17	Called to Be Saints

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.

Create kindness rocks. Gather together several river rocks. Using permanent markers or paint pens, decorate the rocks with messages like "Kindness Rules!" or "God loves you!" Next time you go to a park, place the rocks where people can find them.