

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

Calming God, breath into us new life, new energy and new love. Center our anxious hearts with your gentle Spirit. Give us what we need each day to be kind and helpful people. And adjust our attitudes to seek you first. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs and Lows:** What is something that calmed your nerves today? What is something that made you anxious?
- ❓ **Thinking About This Week's Story:** Jesus heals the slave of a Roman commander and raises the widow's son from death. Both the commander and the widow were very sad. What made you sad today? What made you happy?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Jesus takes Peter, James, and John on top of a mountain where they saw an amazing sight. What was something exciting that happened today? What was something disappointing?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Take turns praying the names of everyone you know who is sick, injured, stressed, sad, or other negative situations.

CLOSING

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

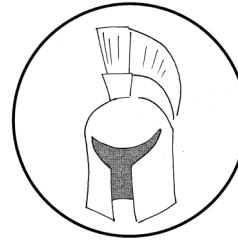
✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

Mark one another with the sign of the cross on each other's hands or forehead, and say, "Jesus loves you! 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 7, 2021

Luke 7:1-17



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favorably on [God's] people!"

—Luke 7:16

MEALTIME PRAYER

Healer God, with your outstretched hands, you can heal our bodies. With good food, you can feed our bodies. With your mighty Spirit, you can calm our souls. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

As you read these stories, ask: **What is Jesus doing in each of these stories? How can hearing the stories of the Bible be healing?**

Sunday	Luke 7:1-17	Healing the Sick, Raising the Dead
Monday	Luke 8:40-56	A Girl Raised and a Woman Healed
Tuesday	John 11:38-44	Jesus Raises Lazarus
Wednesday	Luke 18:1-8	The Widow and the Unjust Judge
Thursday	Acts 10:1-16	Peter and Cornelius
Friday	Deuteronomy 24:17-22	Treatment of Widows, Foreigners, and Orphans
Saturday	Luke 8:26-39	Jesus Heals the Gerasene Demoniac
Sunday	Luke 9:28-45	The Transfiguration

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.

On a piece of paper, write down everyone you know who is sick. Hang the paper on the fridge, and commit to praying for them this week.