

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

Creator of all things, we know that we, too, are descendants of Abraham and that your promise lives through us. May we be a blessing to the next generation, as the ones before us were to us. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs and Lows:** What happened today that made you happy? What made you unhappy?
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Paul proclaims that all people are "one in Christ Jesus." Where have you seen unity today? Where have you seen division?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** In next week's readings, we see the Holy Spirit at work, both in the miracles at Pentecost, but also in our lives. What does God's presence in your life look like? What flashes of this have you seen 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

✠ Name divisions that separate people in friends, families, communities, the nation, and the world. Pray for these.

CLOSING

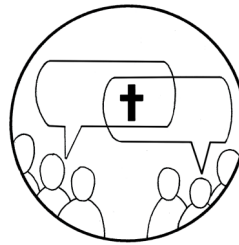
✠ If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotion time.

✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

Have each person say to the person on their right, "May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you."

MAY 16, 2021

Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.
—Galatians 3:26

MEALTIME PRAYER

Loving God, you provide all good things. Bless this food and bless all of the people who have worked to bring it to our table. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Listen as you read: **What do you hear God saying in each of these stories?**

Sunday	Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29	A Church Divided
Monday	Genesis 15:1-6	God's Covenant with Abraham
Tuesday	Galatians 3:15-18	Abraham Remembered
Wednesday	Galatians 3:19-22	The Purpose of the Law
Thursday	Galatians 4:8-20	Paul Reproves the Galatians
Friday	Galatians 4:21-31	Hagar and Sarah
Saturday	Galatians 5:1-15	Christian Freedom
Sunday	Acts 2:1-4; Galatians 4:1-7	God Sends the Holy Spirit

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.

Brainstorm ideas on how you can reach out to someone who is "divided" from you. Choose one thing and commit to doing it this week.