

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

Lord God, through your love you have called us to work in your world. Free us from being bound up in what is fair or in who is working more, or less, or even not at all. Above all, may we always live your love in our daily lives. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** What made you happy today? What made you angry?
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** In the story that Jesus tells, some of the workers did not think it was fair that everyone got paid the same, even the workers that did not work all day. What happened to you today that seemed fair? What happened that seemed unfair?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Did you receive an invitation today? Maybe you were invited to eat lunch with someone or share in class or at work? Did you accept their invitation? If not, why?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Using the service project list, pray for all the unfair ways of the world.

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, "May God bless you so you can bless others. 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 5, 2023

Matthew 20:1-16



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"The last will be first, and the first will be last. "

- Matthew 20:16

MEALTIME PRAYER

Generous God, you give us the grapes to make wine and the fruit to eat. Be with us as nourish our bodies with the gifts of your harvest so that we can be faithful laborers in your world. 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	Matthew 20:1-16	The Laborers in the Vineyard
Monday	Matthew 20:17-19	Upcoming Suffering
Tuesday	Matthew 20:20-23	A Mother's Request
Wednesday	Matthew 20:24-28	The Servant Leader
Thursday	Matthew 20:29-34	Moved with Compassion
Friday	2 Samuel 7:12-13	David's Heir
Saturday	Matthew 1:1	Son of David
Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	The Wedding Banquet

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.

Make a list of all the unfair things you see in the world from as individual as bullies to as global as unclean drinking water or war. Hang the list in place that you see it daily. Each day say a prayer for those affected by these unfair actions.