

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, the crowds welcomed your Son as a conquering hero, without even suspecting that he would soon conquer sin and death. Help us to sing Jesus' praises daily in our lives and to welcome him as the Lord of our lives. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** Name one thing you did today where you received praise. Name one thing that was not praised.
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Palm Sunday is a big day for Jesus. People celebrated him as their king. Can you think of one way to celebrate Jesus today? Say a kind word to a friend? Thank Jesus in prayer?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Easter is the story when Jesus is raised from the dead. It was a beautiful surprise for everyone. Name one way you were surprised 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

✠ Have each person say a prayer. After each petition, together say, "Hosanna!"

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, "Blessed are you, sent in the name of the Lord. Amen."

April 2, 2023

Matthew 21:1-17



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

- Matthew 21:9

MEALTIME PRAYER

Praise to you, dear Jesus. Give food to those who are hungry, drink to those who are thirsty, and rest to those who are weary. 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 21:1-17	Triumphal Entry
Monday	Matthew 21:23-32	Teaching in the Temple
Tuesday	Matthew 26:1-13	An Extravagant Anointing
Wednesday	Matthew 26:14-16	Thirty Pieces of Silver
Thursday	Matthew 26:17-30	The Last Supper
Friday	Matthew 27:27-61	The Crucifixion
Saturday	Psalms 22:1-11	Crying out to God
Sunday	Matthew 28:1-10	The Risen Jesus

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.

Spend one hour as a household clearing sidewalks, trails, or pathways of trash, fallen sticks, and debris as way to prepare the path for those who might use them.