

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

Merciful God, as we are baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus, help us each day to reject sin and embrace the new life you give us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** Name one moment filled with love or grace from your day. Name one moment that was not grace-filled.
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Paul describes sin and forgiveness in terms of dying and being raised from the dead. Each day, then, we are given a new chance. What might be something that you do differently tomorrow than you did today?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Paul speaks of hope always being something we cannot easily see. Talk about a time today when you were hoping or waiting for something to happen. Was it easy or difficult to wait or to be hopeful?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Write down each person's highs and lows from the day. Pray together by using the highs from the day to give thanks to God, and use the lows to ask God for help.

CLOSING

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

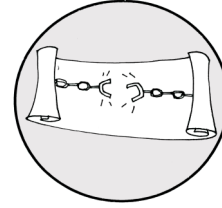
✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

With permission, mark one another with the sign of the cross on their forehead, and say, "Child of God, you are surrounded by God's grace. 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/>.

May 21, 2023

Romans 6:1-14



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

- Romans 6:14

MEALTIME PRAYER

From picnics to quiet meals, be with us as we eat and drink. From pool parties to the dining table, be with us as we enjoy your gift of this day. From this moment on, help us feel your presence, dear God. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Something to consider as you read: **What are the people doing in each passage? What is God doing?**

Sunday	Romans 6:1-14	Freedom from Sin
Monday	Romans 6:15-19	Slaves to Sin No More
Tuesday	Romans 6:20-23	Freed for Eternal Life
Wednesday	Romans 7:1-6	Dead to the Law
Thursday	Romans 7:7-12	The Law Shows Us Our Sin
Friday	Romans 7:13-20	Sin Dwells in Me
Saturday	Romans 7:21-25	Jesus to the Rescue
Sunday	Acts 2:1-4; Romans 8:14-39	The Promise of 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.

For one week, choose a time or a duration of time during the day to pause all devices in the household. Come together and pray for other who need God's help.