

DEVOTIONS

Think about devotions is 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

Blessed are you, O God, who hears our prayers of joy, of peace, and of love. Hear our prayers as we wave our palm branches and shout, "Hosanna." We are blessed because you are the one who saves us. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❑ **Hights & Lows:** What made you feel happy today? What made you feel sad today?
- ❑ **Thinking About This Week's Story:** The people were excited to praise Jesus as he rode a colt into Jerusalem. How did you praise God today?
- ❑ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Surprise! The tomb is empty, and Jesus has been raised to new life. What surprised you today? How did you experience new life 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

† Wave your hands in the air like palm branches and have each person say a prayer of joy.

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, "Go and bless others with God's love today. 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/>.

APRIL 5, 2020

Mark 11:1-11; 14:3-9



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

- Mark 11:10

MEALTIME PRAYER

We are blessed, God, because of your presence in our lives. We are blessed, God, because of how you provide for us. We are blessed, God, because of your great love for us. Bless us now and forevermore. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What do you think is the point of each story?**

Sunday	Mark 11:1-11; 14:3-9	Triumphal Entry and Anointing
Monday	Deuteronomy 15:7-11	Open Your Hand to the Poor
Tuesday	Mark 14:10-21	Passover Preparations
Wednesday	Mark 14:22-31	The Last Supper
Thursday	Mark 14:32-42	Prayer in Gethsemane
Friday	Mark 15:16-39	The Death of Jesus
Saturday	Mark 15:40-47	The Burial of Jesus
Sunday	Mark 16:1-8	The Empty Tomb

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.

Bring flowers to a neighbor, coworker, or friend.