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**
  Promising God, you have created us and all that exists. You have not left us to be alone, but have kept your promises to be with us and to provide a community where we can love and be loved. Help us to make promises to you and to others, and help us to keep our promises. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- **Highs and Lows:** What is something that made you happy today? What is something that made you sad or angry?
- **Thinking about This Week's Story:** God gives the first people everything they need, but also gave them one rule. What rules have you had to follow today? Which rules did you want to break?
- **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** God promised a really big family to Abram (Abraham) and Sarai (Sarah), which you are a part of! What is one way you have been blessed by your family or friends 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

- Gather in a circle and take turns praying, each person focusing on the person to the right. Think of their highs and lows or ask what they want you to pray for.

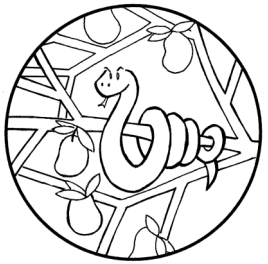
CLOSING

- If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotion time.
- **Rituals and Traditions: A Blessing to Share**
  With permission, mark one another with the sign of the cross each other's hands or forehead, and say, **"You are God's beloved creation. Go love and care for 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/.

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SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 **Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8**



Sharing GOD'S STORY *@ home*

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

The man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.
– Genesis 3:8

MEALTIME PRAYER

Creator God, thank you for all you have provided for us on this beautiful planet. Bless this food to our bodies and bless all of those who work to provide food. Help us to be generous to all of those who do not have enough to eat. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: ***What are God and the people doing in each story?***

Sunday	Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8	Creation and Fall
Monday	Genesis 3:9-19	God Confronts Adam and Eve
Tuesday	Genesis 6:9-22	God's Promise and Command to Noah
Wednesday	Genesis 7:17-24; 8:6-12	The Great Flood
Thursday	Genesis 9:8-17	The Covenant with Noah
Friday	Genesis 11:1-9	The Tower of Babel
Saturday	Genesis 12:1-7	The Call of Abram
Sunday	Genesis 15:1-6	God's Promise to Abram

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.

Have each family member choose one item out of the pantry and give to a local food pantry. Make the donation as a whole family, if possible.

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