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 Great Deliverer, hear our prayer. When you pass over our homes, keep us safe. Be near us, God, so we are slaves to nothing. Free us to live as your faithful servants, and call us by name into your loving care. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- **Highs and Lows:** Name one thing that you passed up today. Name one thing that you could not pass up at all.
- **Thinking about This Week's Story:** By passing over the homes marked with blood, God spared the Israelites from the last plague. What a remarkable love God had for the Israelites! Who has shown you love or kindness today?
- **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** God's people, the Israelites, turned away from God to worship a golden calf. We might not bow down to a gold cow today, but people get distracted by all sorts of things. What distracted you 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

- Discuss where each of you might feel "stuck" or trapped, perhaps by a bad habit or a frustrating situation at school or work. After each person shares, have everyone lay hands on them, praying: **God, bring freedom and joy to** [name]**. Amen.**

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 each other's hands or forehead, and say, **"God delivers you through the love of Jesus. 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 29, 2024 **Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8**



Sharing GOD'S STORY *@ home*

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"Remember this day on which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."
—Exodus 13:3

MEALTIME PRAYER

God of goodness, you delivered your people Israel out of Egypt, and you promise to deliver us from all suffering through Jesus. So as we bow heads to give you praise, bless this food to our bodies and us to your work. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

The story of Moses is filled with rich history. As you read the story, have a map handy to help you follow the steps of the people from Egypt towards the Promised Land.

Sunday	Exodus 12:1-3; 13:1-8	Promises of Passover
Monday	Exodus 13:17-22	The Pillars of Cloud and Fire
Tuesday	Exodus 14:5-25	Crossing the Red Sea
Wednesday	Exodus 16:1-8	Bread from Heaven
Thursday	Exodus 19:1-9, 20-25	The Israelites Reach Mount Sinai
Friday	Exodus 20:1-17	The Ten Commandments
Saturday	Exodus 24:9-18	Moses on the Mountain
Sunday	Exodus 32:1-14	The Golden Calf

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.

Deliver something sweet to someone who is need of a good friend.

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