

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

God the Great Deliverer, hear our prayer. When you pass over our homes, keep us safe. Be near us, God, so we are slave to none. 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 marking their homes with blood, God spared the Israelites from the last plague. What a remarkable love God had for the Israelites. Who shows you remarkable love?
- ? **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** God's people, the Israelites, turned away from God to worship a golden calf. It might sound funny to bow down to a gold cow, but people worship all sorts of things. What is the first thing that comes to your mind?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Say together this prayer: God deliver me from sin. God deliver me from evil. God deliver me from wrongdoings. God deliver me into your hands, I pray. 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

Using a red washable marker, mark each other's palms with the sign of the cross, and say, "God saved you through the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Go and may your hands 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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Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.
— Exodus. 12:13.

MEALTIME PRAYER

God of Goodness, through out history you delivered your people out of Egypt, and you promise to deliver us out of sin. So as we bow heads to give you praise, bless this food — whether it be pizza, takeout, or lamb — 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 promise land.

Sunday	Exodus 12:1-3; 13:1-8	The 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 Mt. Sinai
Friday	Exodus 20:1-17	The Ten Commandments
Saturday	Exodus 24:9-18	Moses on the Mountain
Sunday	Exodus 32:1-14	The Israelites Forgot God's Promise

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.