

## 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

Amazing God—You have created everyone to be in community with each other. No matter how different we are, your healing power can draw us together. Help us to continue the work of reaching out to people who need to hear your Good News. Amen.

### CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ? **Highs and Lows:** Name one thing you heard today that was good news. Name one thing you heard today that was bad news.
- ? **Thinking About This Week's Story:** Jesus sent word back to John the Baptist that he was tending to the blind, sick, poor, and even raising the dead! In fact, Jesus was doing exactly what he had set out to do. What do you want to do with your life? Do you live a life of service to others? Are you doing what you have set out to do?
- ? **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Jesus shows love and forgiveness to a woman, who is seen as sinful. How do you show love towards people? What about the people who seem unlovable?

### DAILY BIBLE READING

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

### PRAY TOGETHER

Pray over your calendar and schedule. Be specific with your dates, projects, or tests, as your search for God's encouragement and love.

### 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 the sign of the cross on each other's hands, and say, "Blessed are you with hands to serve. Go and share God's love with 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](http://www.vibrantfaith.org)). For more information about the Four Keys, go to <http://milestonesministry.org/>.

FEBRUARY 12, 2016

Luke 7:18-35



# Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." —Luke 7:22-23

### MEALTIME PRAYER

God of Life, You bless everyone who seeks your abundance and grace. Bless this food we about to receive to the nourishment of our bodies. Bless us to the daily work of sharing your Good News with those we meet. Amen.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read: Sum up in your own words the meaning of each story.*

Sunday	Luke 7:18-35	A Messenger Prepares the Way for Healing
Monday	Proverbs 8:32-36	Wisdom's Reward
Tuesday	Luke 8:4-10	The Parable of the Sower
Wednesday	Luke 8:11-15	The Parable of the Sower Explained
Thursday	Luke 8:16-18	A Lamp Under a Jar
Friday	Luke 8:19-21	Jesus' Mother and Brothers
Saturday	Luke 8:22-25	Jesus Calms the Storm
Sunday	Luke 7:36-50	A Sinful Woman

*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.*

Call someone on the phone who is sick or lonely and share some Good News with them.