# **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."

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Forgiving God—You love us even when we do the wrong thing. You love us even when we hate others. You love us even when we cannot even forgive ourselves. Help us to chose what is right. Help us to chose love even when it is hard. And help us to forgive others and ourselves. 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 smile today? What is something that made you cry?
- ? Thinking About This Week's Story: A sinful woman washes the feet of Jesus with her hair, perfume and tears. Because of her faith, Jesus forgives her sins. Is it hard or easy for you to forgive someone? Does it depend on what they did? Or are you quick to forgive?
- ? Getting Ready for Next Week's Story: Jesus takes Peter, James and John on top of a mountain. Inside out, Jesus is transfigured and so are the hearts of the disciples. Can you name an experience that changed you for the good? How?

### DAILY BIBLE READING

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

### **PRAY TOGETHER**

Take a prayer walk in your house. Pray in the various rooms that God will fill each room with love and forgiveness.

# CLOSING

₱ If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotion time.

### Prituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

Mark the sign of the cross on each other's hearts and say, "Child of God, loved and forgiven, blessed are you in this world of misunderstandings. 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/.

Luke 7:36-50 **FEBRUARY 19, 2016** 



## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." —Luke 7:47

# MEALTIME PRAYER

God of Goodness, Thank you for your love of food that comes in many flavors and flair. Thank you for your love that comes to us in new and unexpected ways. Thank you for your forgiveness that you bestow on us each and every day. Amen.

## **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

One thing to think about: How does the role of forgiveness play in each of these stories?

Sunday	Luke 7:36-50	A Sinful Woman Forgiven
Monday	Luke 8:1-3	Some Women Accompany Jesus
Tuesday	Isaiah 55:1-3	An Invitation to Abundant Life
Wednesday	Proverbs 9:1-6	Wisdom's Feast
Thursday	Luke 9:1-9	The Mission of the Twelve
Friday	Luke 9:1-17	Feeding the Five Thousand
Saturday	Luke 9:18-27	Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection
Sunday	Luke 9:28-45	Transfiguration and Healing

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.

Pick out a scented (or non-scented) laundry soap and donate it to the food shelf or homeless shelter.