



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that [God] spoke by Elijah."

—1 Kings 17:16

MEALTIME PRAYER

Provider God, With a little oil and flour, you made a meal. With little oil and flour, you gave life. With a little oil and flour, you fed your people. Be with us as we eat food that you so graciously provided. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*A question to ask as you read: **What does God provide in each of these stories?***

Sunday	1 King 17:1-16 [17-24]	The Widow of Zarephath
Monday	1 Kings 19:11-18	Elijah Meets God
Tuesday	2 Kings 2:1-12	Elijah Ascends to Heaven
Wednesday	2 Kings 4:1-7	Elisha and the Widow's Oil
Thursday	2 Chronicles 34:1-7	The Torah Is Discovered
Friday	2 Chronicles 34:29-33	The Covenant Renewed
Saturday	2 Chronicles 36:15-21	The Fall of Jerusalem
Sunday	Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10 [4:1-11]	Jonah and the Big Fish

*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.

Share your provisions with others: it can be food for the food shelf, spare change for someone who is homeless, or your time and talent needed somewhere.

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

Gracious God, you provide food for our bodies. You provide love to warm our hearts. You provide care for those who need it most. Help us to provide food, love, and care for those you have entrusted to us. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** What is one thing that someone provided for you today that made you happy? What is one thing that was forgotten about today?
- ❓ **Thinking About This Week's Story:** God provided food and shelter to Elijah. God provided oil and flour for the widow and her son. God provided life to the widow's son when he died. How has God provided for you today in small ways or big?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Jonah tries to run away from God because God told him to do something he did not like. What are a few things that people have asked you to do today? Did you do them?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Go in a circle and have each person pray for one thing that the world needs that only God can provide.

CLOSING

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

✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

Shake hands with one another and say, "You have been filled with God's provisions today. 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/>.