



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

And the LORD changed [God's] mind about the disaster that [God] planned to bring on [God's] people.

—Exodus 32:14

MEALTIME PRAYER

God of goodness, You led your people to the Promised Land—a land full of milk, honey, and figs. Today, you have led your people to this table—a table full of food and drink. We ask that you be with us as we eat and be with those who are hungry. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read, ask yourself: **What is God doing in each of these stories?***

Sunday	Exodus 32:1-14	The Golden Calf
Monday	Exodus 32:15-20; 34:1-10	Moses Makes New Tablets
Tuesday	Deuteronomy 1:19-33	Israel's Refusal to Enter the Land
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 1:34-40; 2:1-8	Israel's Years in the Desert
Thursday	Deuteronomy 6:1-9	The Great Commandment
Friday	Joshua 1:1-9	God's Call to Joshua
Saturday	Joshua 23:1-15	Joshua's Wisdom to the People
Sunday	1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10	Hannah Promises Samuel to God

*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.

Like the Israelites, it is easy to get distracted with other things. Pick a night this week to turn off all electronics and do something together as a family (talk, cook, or play together). Let your service be to one another.

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 who remembers, loves, and delivers God's people from all harm. God who reaches, teaches, and preaches when golden calves sound the alarm. God who engages, wages, and changes to care for God's people and all their charm. For who you are, God, we give thanks. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ❓ **Highs and Lows:** What or who distracted you at work, school or home today? How were you a distraction when someone else was trying to work, study, or play?
- ❓ **Thinking About This Week's Story:** God became angry when the Israelites started worshipping a golden calf. They were not worshipping God! God wants God's people to put God first, before anything else. What was something that distracted you from putting God first in your life today?
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Hannah wanted a child, and bore a son, named Samuel. Because of this, she sings a song of praise to God. What is one thing that made you want to dance and sing before God 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

✠ For two minutes, turn off all distractions and lights. Say a quiet prayer at the end of the time.

CLOSING

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

✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

Hold hands out palms up, and say, "With these hands ready to serve, send us out, God, with love and care."

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/>.