



# Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

—Jonah 1:9

## MEALTIME PRAYER

From the fish of the sea to the grains of wheat, thank you, God, for everything that is good to eat. With our bellies fed and hearts warmed, be with us God, through life's storms. Amen.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you sink yourself into the stories of the week, ask yourself: **What would it be like to encounter God? To see and hear God's voice right in front of us?***

Sunday	Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10 [4:1-11]	Jonah and the Big Fish
Monday	Jonah 1	Jonah Tries to Run from God
Tuesday	Jonah 3	Conversion of Nineveh
Wednesday	Jonah 4	Jonah's Anger
Thursday	Exodus 33:7-23	Moses Sees God
Friday	Exodus 40:18-34	Moses Sets Up the Tabernacle
Saturday	Exodus 40:34-38	The Glory of the Lord
Sunday	Isaiah 6:1-8	A Vision of God in the Temple

*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.*

What is something you can do to show other people God's love? Support each other and do it.

## 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 of the heavens, who made the sea and dry land, and everything in it, please help all of creation to follow you. Even when we want to run away from our problems, like Jonah, lead us with a gentle hand. 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 you were happy *not* to miss today? What is one thing that made you want to run away?
- 🕒 **Thinking About This Week's Story:** God's message to the people of Nineveh was to repent, or to turn away from their path and walk down God's. What was something you did today when you ought to have said sorry? Did you?
- 🕒 **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** The prophet Isaiah encounters God in the temple. Most of the time we do not see God in such a dramatic way. We can often see God in beautiful things and acts of love, kindness, and justice. What did you experience today where you might have seen a glimpse of God?

### DAILY BIBLE READING

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

### PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Jesus taught his people to pray the Lord's Prayer whenever and wherever they found themselves. Pray the Lord's Prayer together.

### 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 one another with the sign of the cross on each other's hands or forehead, and say, "God will be with you wherever you go. 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/>.