

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, remind us always that not only are you the Lord of the world but you are also the Lord of our hearts. Help us see what is distracting us from following you and give us the zeal to do your work of love and justice. Dwell within us and like you promised, never leave us. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- ♀ **Hights & Lows:** Name one thing that has happened in the last three days that has made you glad. Name one thing that has happened in the last three days that has made you sad.
- ♀ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** People were using a holy place to make money. This made Jesus angry. How have you dealt with anger, frustration, or even boredom today? What about happiness or excitement?
- ♀ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Jesus explains to Nicodemus that the work of God's Holy Spirit is like the wind, felt but not seen. What are some of the things you have felt but not seen 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

† Before praying, have each person name one thing that they need forgiven. Then thank God for God's love and forgiveness.

CLOSING

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

† Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

With permission, shake each person's hand and say, "Jesus gives you life. Amen."

JANUARY 18, 2026



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

—John 2:19

MEALTIME PRAYER

With our hands folded, we give thanks to you, Lord. With hunger in our bellies, we give thanks to you, Lord. With love in our hearts, we give thanks to you, Lord. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **How is the temple described in each of these stories?**

Sunday	John 2:13-25	Cleansing the Temple
Monday	Jeremiah 7:1-11	Prophecy Concerning the Temple
Tuesday	Zechariah 6:9-15	The Future Temple Is Foretold
Wednesday	Zechariah 14:20-21	The Future Temple Has No Traders
Thursday	Revelation 21:22-26	God and the Lamb
Friday	Isaiah 56:1-7	House of Prayer
Saturday	Psalm 69:9	Zeal for the House of the Lord
Sunday	John 3:1-21	Nicodemus Visits Jesus

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.

Choose one or more people you know and pray for them every day this week. Then send them a card, call, or message to tell them that you are praying for them.