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**
  Lord, like Habakkuk, we look around at the suffering and injustice in our world and ask, "Where are you?" You promised him that someday all things would be made right. In this season of Advent waiting, give us eyes to see your promises of hope and peace at work in the world. Amen

CARING CONVERSATION

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

- **Highs & Lows:** Name one thing that you experienced that felt hopeful today. Name one thing that you experienced that felt hopeless.
- **Thinking about This Week's Story:** God tells Habakkuk to wait. Advent is the season of waiting for Jesus. When did you have to wait today? Was it hard or easy to wait? Why?
- **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** While God is not mentioned in the story of Esther, God is at work behind the scenes. Sometimes we feel God's presence in our days, and sometimes we do not. Did you feel God's presence today? How did you experience love, joy, or peace?

DAILY BIBLE READING

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

PRAY TOGETHER

- Dear God, we hope for _____. We wait for _____. We thank you for _____. Amen.

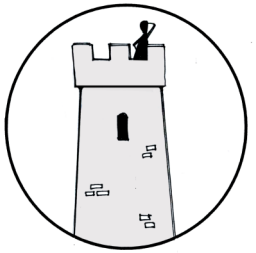
CLOSING

- 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, mark one another with the sign of the cross on each other's hands or forehead, and say, **"Rejoice in the Lord! Amen."**

The "Four Key Faith Practices"—Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals & Traditions—are a framework developed by the Rev. Dr. David Anderson. A brief description of the Four Keys is available at Milestones Ministry, LLC: https://milestonesministry.org/history-of-the-four-keys/.

© 2017-2026 Spirit & Truth Publishing—All Rights Reserved– For Local Congregational Use Only

November 29, 2026 **Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:[3b-6] 17-19**



Sharing GOD'S STORY *@ home*

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

- Habakkuk 2:4

MEALTIME PRAYER

God, with this food and drink, nourish and strengthen our bodies to do your work. Be present with us as we enjoy our time together around this meal. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Something to consider as you read: ***What are the people doing in each story? What is God doing in each story?***

Sunday	Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:[3b-6], 17-19	Waiting and Watching
Monday	Psalm 137:1-6	In a Foreign Land
Tuesday	Esther 1:1-9	The Glory of a Foreign King
Wednesday	Esther 1:10-22	Vashti's Refusal
Thursday	Esther 2:1-11	Esther and Mordecai
Friday	Esther 2:12-23	Savvy Esther's Success
Saturday	Esther 3:1-15	The Anger of Haman
Sunday	Esther 4:1-17	Esther Leads

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.

During Advent, many people start to decorate their home for Christmas. How might each person in your family pitch in and help?

© 2017-2026 Spirit & Truth Publishing—All Rights Reserved– For Local Congregational Use Only