



Milestones

Family Devotions are the core of faith formation. It is important to make them a regular part of your week. As they become routine, you will find the time comes to be more meaningful for the whole family.

You may choose to do family devotions at a time that works for your family. Some choose to do it before bed, at a meal time, or on a Saturday. For additional ideas about doing Family Devotions, visit our website.

Devotion times focus around key elements that support our faith life:

- Recognizing God's movement in our lives through milestones
- Reading Scripture
- Caring Conversation
- Service
- Blessing each other

The Short Family Devotion provides a shorter form that covers just one of the key elements. It will likely take about 10 to 15 minutes. It is useful when devotions are done multiple times in a week. Doing them three times each week will result in covering all the key elements.

Resources you'll need:

- Bible
- Taking Faith Home (TFH) handout
- Candle (optional)
- Milestones (optional)
- A basket or box for cell phones

There are other options for Devotions that are available on our website. If this one doesn't work for you, consider using one of the others available.

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Short Family Devotions

- Begin by **announcing it is time for devotions**. Ask everyone to silence their phones and collect them in a basket. Set the basket aside, out of reach and out of view.
- **Light a candle and pray**: "Gracious God, help us focus on you and each other during this time."
- **Acknowledge any milestones** that have or will be happening (these may be suggested in the bulletin/chimes, in TFH, or may be individual/family ones).
 - Pick out the milestone that is being acknowledge and invite every family member to share their thoughts about the milestone.
- **Pick one of the following**:
 - Read a **scripture** and reflect upon it. Use the one in TFH, the Sunday bulletin, or let your family select one.
 - Invite a **caring conversation** using the starters in TFH or the Chimes. Alternatively, use the core milestones.
 - Share a **service** experience or plan one to complete this week.
- **Recite the Lord's Prayer together**
- **Bless one another**
 - Use the suggestion in TFH
- **Extinguish the candle** and return everyone's cell phones.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**