

# How to Use "Sharing God's Story @ Home"

Schedule a time of day for devotions. Even if you cannot spend the same amount of time each day. Make devotions a priority for the whole household!





This take-home page will be available each week. Use it for Devotion Reading Plan Faith Nurture

The scripture verse for the week is good for memorization & meditation.

Mix it up with mealtime prayers that fit the week's theme!


The daily Bible readings connect the Sunday stories together.

**Sharing God's Story @ Home**

Creation | Fall | Redemption | New Creation

**Genesis 1:1-2; 4a**



**SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK**

God saw everything that [God] had made, and indeed, it was very good. — Gen. 1:31

**MEALTIME PRAYER**


Creator God, we thank you for the gift of life. Bountiful God, we thank you for the gift of food. Merciful God, we thank you for the gift of your love. You are indeed a God who provides for your people. Amen.

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What is God doing in each story?***

Sunday	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	God's Good Creation
Monday	Genesis 2:7-9, 15, 18-25	Adam and Eve as Caretakers
Tuesday	Genesis 3:8-19	Sin Upsets the Role of the Caretaker
Wednesday	Genesis 12:1-9	God Calls Abram
Thursday	Genesis 15:1-6	God Makes a Covenant with Abram
Friday	Genesis 17:15-21	God Changes Abram's Name
Saturday	Genesis 18:1-15	God Promises Isaac to Abraham and Sarah
Sunday	Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14	God Provides for Abraham

*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.*

Write a list together of non-perishable items that you can pick up at the grocery store and bring to St. Mark's and put in the Food Pantry box in the coat room next to the church office.

**SMALL CATECHISM:** In September, study and try to memorize the first article of The Apostles' Creed and what it means. Need a copy? Robin can help!

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**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 or use an electronic candle to help you focus this time as "God time."

**Prayer of the Week**

God of Greatness—From the beginning you were there. Out of nothing, you created every animal, plant and person. You breathed into creation your Spirit of life and called it good. Be with us this day as we rise with the sun and sleep with the moon above. And with each day anew, create within us a reflection of your love. Amen.


**CARING CONVERSATION** 

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

? **Highs & Lows:** What is one thing you saw in creation that made you happy? What is one thing you saw in creation that made you sad or angry? What are some things that God would desire for us to do to care for his creation?

? **Thinking About This Week's Story:** God made everything in creation from the mountains to the ocean, from the flowers to the fields. What is your favorite thing to do in God's creation? Where are some places in God's creation you have traveled?

? **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** God promised Abraham a son. Late in his life, baby Isaac was born. God kept God's promise to Abraham. Do you keep your promises? Why are promises important?

**DAILY BIBLE READING** 


*Read aloud from the DAILY BIBLE READING from the front of this paper. What do you want to remember from today's reading?*

**PRAY TOGETHER**

Have each person finish this prayer: Dear God, Thank you for... [name something in creation]. Help me... [name something you need help with]. 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** 

*Mark one another with the sign of the cross each other's hands, and say, "You have been created with kind and loving hands. Go, help and care for others."*

The prayer of the week can be read every day. It fits the theme of the week.

Talk about the daily readings. Think about the who, what, when, where, why and how of the story.

Pray from your heart. Talk to God.

As you close, think, "What does God want me to do?"

Each week, you will find suggestions for faith in action and/or connections to Luther's Small Catechism



The **FOUR KEYS** are Caring Conversations, Devotions/Prayer, Rituals & Traditions, and Service. By using these **FOUR KEYS** in the home, faith grows and deepens.