

### Dear Grandparents,

You are blessed to be a blessing! You have a profound influence on the faith and values of your grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and the normal routines of grandparenting - whether in person or from a distance - offer wonderful opportunities to be intentional about passing along faith to the children you love.

Each month, we will send ideas for sharing faith practices with the special kids in your lives. These ideas are a place to start; we hope you experiment with these "Tiny Try-It-Outs" to find something that works for you. Please share your experiences with us, so that we can pass along your wisdom to others!

# Tiny Try-It-Out: Candle Time

Take 5 minutes and begin by lighting a candle to remind everyone that the presence of God is with you.

### Here is your Candle Time Devotion for this month:

- 1. Share. Share your highs and lows from the week so far.
- 2. **Read**. Together, look up and read<u>James 1:17</u>.
- 3. **Reflect**. What are some "good and perfect gifts" for which you are thankful?
- 4. **Pray**. Remembering each other's highs and lows shared, pray for the family member sitting to your right. Ask for God's presence and hope in their lows, and give thanks and praise for the highs.
- 5. **Bless**. Trace the sign of the cross on each other's forehead, hand, or shoulder and say: "God loves you, and so do I."

Find additional Candle Time resources and devotions here.

## Ideas for Grandparents

Candle Time has several components, which will be highlighted individually over the next several months - but the central goal is to **share holy space and** *time with someone you care about*. Consider these possible Candle Time adaptations for your unique circumstances:

- As a regular caregiver: Pair Candle Time with snacks, reading time, or another element of your daily routine.
- From a distance: Plan a "Candle Time Date" via Zoom or FaceTime. Consider mailing a matching candle or candle holder to loved ones so you can each light yours at the same time across the miles.
- With younger kids: Try an LED or battery-operated candle in the presence of a curious toddler who might grab for a hot flame.
- With older kids: Host a "Candle Time" bonfire and sweeten the deal with fixings for s'mores.

How will you carve out holy space and time with those you love?

# Building Faith: "Grandparents Give the Gift of Faith"

"How can you share your faith with your grandchildren? The same way as you share other important parts of your life, through stories and time. Share what you love with your grandchildren..." Read more.



God's peace,



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