

# FaithTalk with Children

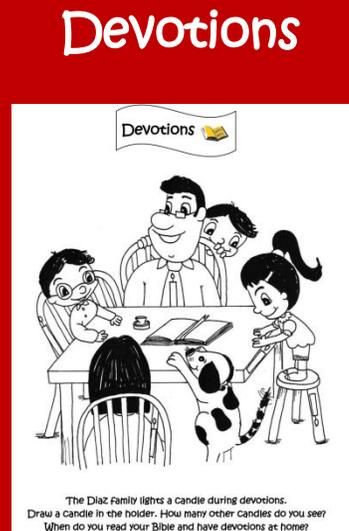


## Coloring and Activity Sheets

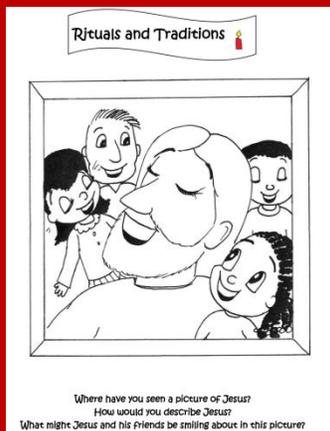
### Nurturing Faith in Children



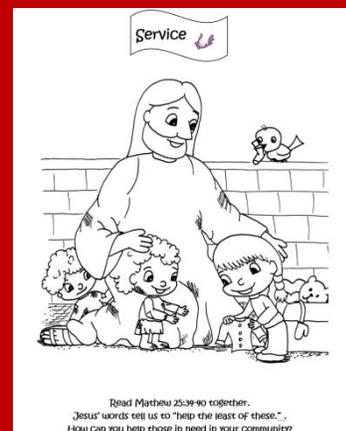
### Caring Conversations



### Devotions



### Rituals and Traditions



### Service

# Four Key Faith Practices

The common thread that nurtures faith formation within one's life journey are the Four Key Faith Practices. These essential faith practices articulate a foundational spirituality that shapes the lives of Christians. Faith is formed through relationships, and those relationships engage in fundamental Christian practices. These basic faith practices are evident in Scripture, church history, and modern research. It is through such practices that faith is transmitted between the generations and over time.

There is a folder for each of the four faith practices for a total of 96 coloring pages. Each of the four folders includes 24 coloring pages to engage in conversations with children about the Christian faith.

## What are the Four Key Faith Practices?

### Caring Conversations



These conversation starters provide meaningful reflection on biblical texts and our daily lives. It helps you bond with others on the journey of faith. It also helps you in the important task of talking about your Christian faith. Each day provides holy moments for caring adults to have meaningful conversations with children about God's love.

### Devotions



Being devoted to God's word serves as the foundation for practicing the presence of God and blessing you with faith, hope, and love. Having a special time of day to do devotions increases the regularity of this important practice in your life. Children and adults learn the language of the Christian faith together as they practice the faith through reading Bible stories, praying during meals and at bedtime, and discovering ways to define holy spaces in their home.

## Rituals and Traditions



Symbolic actions grounded in the Christian tradition throughout the year provide a beautiful and holistic way of experiencing the grace of God. As you practice rituals and traditions, continue to use the ones that fill you with peace, passion, meaning, and hope. The symbols, signs, and family routines and activities are important in faith formation because of the stories behind them. Through learning family faith stories, rituals, and traditions, children receive their identity, purpose, and meaning.

## Service



Christ tells us to serve others. By living the faith in love, we learn the value and joy of the Christian faith. Serving others reminds us of the breadth of the Kingdom of God and that our faith is personal but not private. Faith motivates us to serve the world in love. God uses our loving acts of kindness for other people to see the love of Jesus.

Faith is caught more than it is taught.

Children and parents grow together in faith as they do acts of service.

For his doctoral research, the Rev. Dr. David W. Anderson developed the concept and theological foundation for the Four Key Faith Practices. They have been used for over 30 years as a resource for nurturing faith in the home. They have been proven to be an effective way to nurture faith for all ages. The Rev. Dr. Richard Hardel, a friend and colleague of David Anderson at The Youth & Family Institute, worked with an artist, Heather Hultgren, to develop a set of coloring and activity books for each of the Four Key Faith Practices.

Milestones Ministry updated, edited, and placed them as individual pages in digital format so that families and congregations can print them or send in emails.

They are reproducible making them easy to use.

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