

# Kitchen Table Project **Resource Map**

Helping churches develop their family ministry

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Inspire a faith that lasts

# Introduction

We want to see children grow up to have a lasting faith, but churches only have one or two hours a week to input into their lives.

Parents are the biggest influence on their children growing in faith, so we need to work together to see the next generation develop a personal, living faith of their own.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 says:

'These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.'

Faith is built in the everyday. So how can we help parents identify those everyday opportunities to inspire faith?

We want to help you equip parents to invest in their children's spirituality at home, with the support of the church gathering round them.



# What builds faith?

Research suggests there are key elements which can help to inspire children's faith. Our resources have been created to help churches and parents to invest in these different elements.



Discover the resources we have available to help you on this journey.

## Equip **parents**

Peer support is really beneficial for parents. Get parents and carers together to spark friendships and talk through challenges, opportunities, and why it's important to share faith at home.

## **Top tips**

Get parents together

Once a month, once a term – whatever timing works, but get them talking about how to help their children grow in faith.

- **Give reminders to parents** Everyday ideas or resources to prompt them to keep making the most of the everyday opportunities.
- **Pray for parents in your main church services regularly** Reassure them you're supporting them and cheering them on.

## Connect the **church**

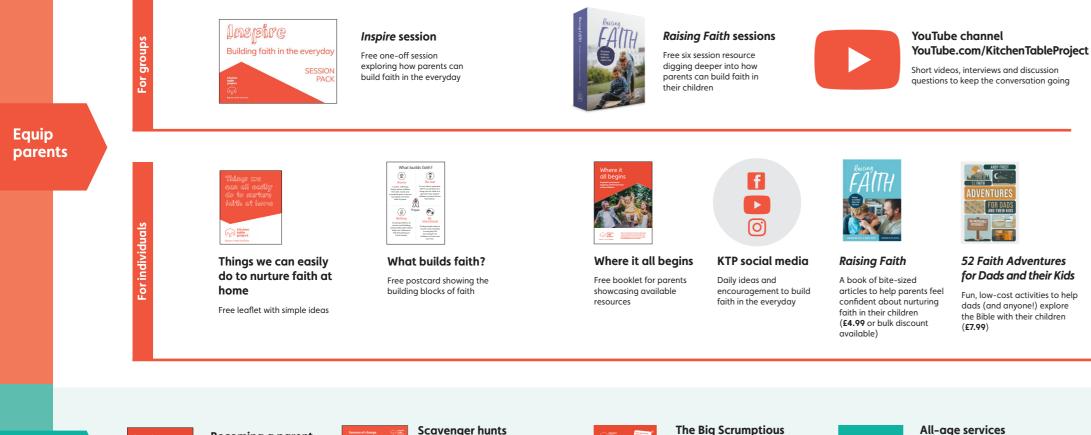
The church plays a vital role in supporting parents and children. When children feel they belong in God's wider family it can really encourage their faith.

## **Top tips**

- Encourage intergenerational relationships
   Whether it's a church picnic, a mentor scheme, all-age services

   intergenerational interaction helps children see God at work
   in every stage of life.
- Offer opportunities for children and families to serve in church Giving children a role helps them feel valued and increases their sense of belonging to the church family.
- Ask people to pray for specific families or children Encourage the whole church to support the families in your church.

#### **Resource map** $\rightarrow$





Further resources from

Care for the Family

Connect

the church

Becoming a parentdiscipling church

Free booklet helping your church leadership look at why family ministry is so important



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Free PDF download of

Bible-themed scavenger hunts to get families together



Faith-Filled Feast

Free to order activity mats to get the church together for food and to share stories of God's goodness



#### 52 Faith Adventures for Dads and their Kids

Fun. low-cost activities to help dads (and anyone!) explore the Bible with their children



#### Family faith calendar

(£9.99)

interaction from all ages, ideal to use alongside a 'Feast'

## Parent support

For all parents and carers including those parenting alone, or who have children with additional needs cff.org.uk/parenting

## **Couple support**

Strengthening couple relationships

cff.org.uk/couples

#### **Bereavement support**

For bereaved parents and those

#### Events

Look out for great teaching events in your area and online

service

cff.org.uk/events

#### who have been widowed young cff.org.uk/bereavement

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Service outlines to encourage



## **Discover more at** kitchentable.org.uk/resources



A perpetual calendar full of daily ideas to help parents build faith in their children



#### Ages and stages

Free PDF download of child development stages and ideas to help build faith at every age



#### Parent email

Regular email with resources and ideas to encourage and equip parents



#### Blogs and devotionals

Honest stories and inspirational thoughts from parents and church leaders

#### Sermon series

Sermon outlines to help the whole church to catch the vision of supporting parents



#### Church leader email

Regular email with new resources and ideas to continue equipping parents

#### About Care for the Family

Care for the Family is a national charity which aims to promote strong family life and help those who face family difficulties. We focus primarily on the following areas of family life: marriage/couple relationships, parenting and bereavement.



# Where will you start on your journey?

#### **1** What resource could take this ministry forward?

Use our resource map to discover ways to equip parents and connect the whole church community to inspire children's faith.

## 2 Connect to the Kitchen Table Project

We'll send you a short monthly email with some encouragement and ideas to help you support parents in your church. kitchentable.org.uk/join

#### 3 Chat to us

We'd love to help you think through what the next steps could be for your church. Contact our networker team.

**J** 029 2081 0800 mail@cff.org.uk The Kitchen Table Project is a faith-based initiative from Care for the Family for Christian parents, carers, church leaders and children's workers.

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Care for the Family is a Christian initiative to strengthen family life. A registered charity (England and Wales: 1066905; Scotland: SC038497). Registered office: Tovey House, Cleppa Park, Newport, NP10 8BA.