



# Homegrown

Growing faith at home

A one-day live-streamed conference  
Tuesday 8 October, 2019

Additional workshops -  
Wednesday 9 October, 2019

A brief guide to participating in the  
Homegrown conference

The **Methodist** Church 



parenting  
for faith



Inspire a faith that lasts

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This guide contains the information that you will need to make the most of all that's on offer. It includes the timings of the day and details of sessions, along with questions for reflection/discussion for each of the events: the daytime live-streamed event on Tuesday 8 October, the evening session for parents and carers on the same day, and the additional programme for the studio audience on Wednesday 9 October. To find content for the particular part of Homegrown you're joining in, use these icons found in the following pages.



8 October daytime  
live-streamed event



8 October evening  
live-streamed event for  
parents and carers



9 October daytime  
event for audience  
in attendance

# Welcome to Homegrown

A warm welcome to Homegrown. It's great that you've been able to join us. Whether you're joining in as part of a group or by yourself, our hope is that we will do plenty of learning together! This event is a valuable opportunity to explore how faith is nurtured at home and how the whole church community can play its part in growing disciples. We hope you'll enjoy good discussions with others, in person or via social media. Wherever you are, we urge you to join in the conversation.

Whether you're taking part in the day conference, as part of the live audience or you're a parent or carer joining in the evening event, we trust you'll feel the benefit of all that's shared and offered. Throughout Homegrown there will be opportunities to listen, reflect and to gain valuable practical advice. We hope that you're able to engage with the range of content and feel challenged, resourced, supported and encouraged in your work as you take part.

Homegrown has been planned and arranged in collaboration with a number of different organisations, including: Parenting for Faith, Cliff College, Care for the Family's initiatives, the Kitchen Table Project and Who Let The Dads Out? It's very much a team effort bringing together a breadth of knowledge and experience.

## Streaming:

For both the daytime and evening events you can watch the live stream via the Homegrown webpage ([methodist.org.uk/homegrown](http://methodist.org.uk/homegrown)) or through the Methodist Church Facebook page. Accessing it via the Homegrown webpage will give you a better viewing experience as you will be able to follow the Twitter feed alongside the video. On Facebook, to be notified that the video stream has gone live, you will need to follow the Methodist Church's page and turn on 'notifications' in the newsfeed. Try refreshing the page if you have any streaming issues on the day.

## Engaging via social media:

As well as watching the conference live, there will be ways to engage with its content on social media, including via Facebook comments and Twitter. On Twitter, follow [@childrenyouth](https://twitter.com/childrenyouth) to see conference tweets, and use the hashtag [#Homegrown19](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Homegrown19) in any tweets you send. Joining in on social media will help you to feel connected to all those watching across the country, and it's an interesting way to learn other people's thoughts and reactions.

Please do share photos of where you are watching the conference, as well as your reflections on the topics discussed and points raised.



# Meet the presenting team

## **Anna Hawken** (Parenting for Faith)

Anna is the National Coordinator for Parenting for Faith, heading up their work with denominations and regional networks. She is married to Matt and lives in Milton Keynes with her two- and four-year-old children. Her background is as a children's and families' minister and she leads the under-fives ministry in her local church.

## **Gemma Hunt**

Gemma is a TV presenter who started working exclusively for CBBC in July 2003 before going freelance in 2007. 2013 saw Gemma join the CBeebies family on BAFTA-award-winning pirate gameshow *Swashbuckle*. She is often seen presenting live at Festivals around the UK, including Big Church Day Out and Spring Harvest. Gemma has co-presented the new Alpha Film Series for alpha.org. She runs workshops in presenting skills and enjoys working with children, leading storytelling sessions and birthday parties.

## **Rachel Turner** (Parenting for Faith)

Rachel is the Parenting for Faith Pioneer at The Bible Reading Fellowship. She has worked in a variety of churches as a family life pastor, children's pastor and youth pastor since 2004. She consults, speaks at conferences and runs training days for parents and church leaders around the UK and Europe. Rachel moved to the UK from Southern California in 2002 and now lives in Yorkshire with her husband and son.

## **Andy Frost**

Andy is married to Jo and they have two young daughters. He is the Director of Share Jesus International and has written books including *Long Story Short*. He heads up the London Mission Collective and is a Methodist local preacher and a member of the Evangelical Alliance Council. He has an MA in Applied Theology.



## Meet the presenting team continued

### **Gareth Hillier** (Care for the Family)

Gaz is married to Lois and they have two young children. He works at Care for the Family as their Faith in the Family Networker. He is also involved in church leadership and has a passion for equipping churches and parents to build and inspire faith in the home.

### **Claire Burton** (Care for the Family)

Claire Burton is Project Manager of the Faith in the Family Team at Care for the Family and the Children and Families Pastor at her local church. She is married to Lawrence, and loves being mum to her two energetic young daughters.

### **Gail Adcock** (The Methodist Church)

Gail Adcock is Family Ministry Development Officer working in the Methodist Children, Youth and Family team, and has forged a career in supporting children and families alongside shaping work, ministry and practice in the church and beyond. Her background is in primary school teaching and local church-based ministry. Her book, *The Essential Guide to Family Ministry*, is being published by The Bible Reading Fellowship shortly.

### **Tony Sharp** (Care for the Family)

Tony is married to Brenda and is dad to Laura, who at 24 remains the apple of his eye. He combines a professional engineering career in the water industry alongside working for Care for the Family, for whom he manages the Who Let The Dads Out? project. He is passionate about celebrating and supporting fathers in their most important role.



**Our thanks to:** The extensive studio and production team, led by Ali Johnson, the staff of Cliff College, Pete Herbert and Russell Coppock, Oli Morriss and colleagues from The Methodist Church, all of whom have made an enormous contribution to the smooth running of this event.

**Disclaimer:** The views expressed in the videos shown during Homegrown are those of the author(s) or presenter(s) and are offered as a contribution to the life and work of the Church. They do not necessarily represent the theology of the Methodist Church of Britain or the statements of the Methodist Conference.

# Devotions and worship

The conference will open and close with a time of prayer and reflection. Please feel free to join in with this if you would like to. You may like to have a table or specific area that you use as a focal point for worship.

You could add to this focal point with objects, pictures or words that take on significance for you as you engage with the conference. We will be focusing on 1 Corinthians 3: 6-9 (The New Living Translation version, NLT). You may find it helpful to have a Bible available during the worship times.



# Homegrown day conference

Programme for the live-streamed event

Tuesday 8 October, 9.30am-2.30pm

**9.00am** – Test screen available so you can check your equipment

**9.30am** – Conference starts with opening time of devotion

**9.50am** – Welcome and introducing the conference theme

## **Session 1**

**Joining the dots between church and home**

*with Gareth Hillier*

**10.40am** – Refreshments break

**11.15am** – **Session 2**

**Preparing the soil**

*with Claire Burton and Andy Frost*

**12.00pm** – **Session 3**

**Growing together**

*with Rachel Turner*

**12.45pm** – LUNCH

**1.30pm** – **Session 4**

**Our experience of faith at home**

**1.50pm** – **Session 5**

**Panel Q&A, taking your questions sent via social media**

*with Rachel Turner, Gareth Hillier, Andy Frost and Claire Burton*

**2.20pm** – Closing reflections

**2.30pm** – Day conference ends

**LIVE**



# Session

# 1



## Joining the dots between church and home

*with Gareth Hillier*

Our church provision for children plays an important role in children's faith development, but how can we join the dots between church and home? This session explores how we can empower parents to grasp the amazing opportunity they have to nurture their children's faith in the ups and downs of everyday life.



### Questions for reflection/discussion

1. Do the parents you know see that they have this amazing opportunity to cultivate faith in their children, or do they just see the hurdles?
2. What simple things can you say and do to help change their mindset?

**Your notes:** .....

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# Session 2



## Preparing the soil

*with Claire Burton and Andy Frost*

Families come in many shapes and sizes and face all sorts of celebrations and challenges. This session explores how we can help families find support through the different seasons of family life.



### Questions for reflection/discussion

1. What are the particular challenges facing the families you know in church?
2. Can you think of some practical ways that you could encourage more support for families from within the church?
3. Are there some simple ways in which you or the church could encourage parents' faith to grow?

**Your notes:** .....

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# Session 3



## Growing together

*with Rachel Turner*

As the church, we have the opportunity to be the supporting community around parents and carers, equipping and encouraging them as they disciple their children, but how can we do that well? In this session Rachel will explore how to offer and help parents and carers to find what works for them, as well as encouraging them with key truths.



## Questions for reflection/discussion

1. If you were a new parent/carer joining your church, what do you think the children's ministry would feel like to you?
2. Are there things you could change or tweak to be more like IKEA?

**Your notes:** .....

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# Session

# 4



## Our experience of faith at home

How in practice do families create space and make the most of opportunities to nurture faith together? We'll now hear and see how different families are growing in faith together and what works for them.



### Questions for reflection/discussion

Reflecting upon the videos you have watched:

1. What stood out for you?
2. What factors seem particularly important to help families to grow in faith with each other?
3. What principles or ideas could you apply in your own church or setting with the families you know or support?

**Your notes:** .....

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# Session 5



## Panel Q&A, taking your questions sent via social media

*with Rachel Turner, Gareth Hillier, Andy Frost and Claire Burton*

In this final session there will be a live panel discussion with Rachel Turner, Gareth Hillier, Andy Frost and Claire Burton. They will be reflecting on some of the themes and hot topics of the day as well as questions you've sent in. Please tweet or post your questions to the panel via Facebook.



**Use this space below to note down your questions, anything that sparks your interest or that you plan to follow up:**

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# Care for the Family is here for you

We work closely with families and the church to provide support in the areas of parenting, marriage and bereavement. For parents in the church:

- Our *Playtime* network provides encouragement and resources for the thousands of church-based parent and toddler groups in the UK.
- *Who Let The Dads Out?* helps churches reach out to dads and father figures, so that they can be encouraged and supported in their most important role.
- The *Kitchen Table Project* is a movement of mums, dads and carers joining together to inspire a faith that lasts in their children.

Find out how we can help you in your family or church at [cff.org.uk/faithinthefamily](http://cff.org.uk/faithinthefamily)



Inspire a faith that lasts



# Homegrown for parents and carers

## Programme for the evening event

Tuesday 8 October, 8.00pm-9.30pm

We want to support children grow in faith. But it can sometimes feel like there are lots of things that get in the way. This evening we're going to tackle three common issues head on and show that that they don't need to be barriers. If you've ever thought about or voiced one of these issues, then this evening is for you.

**7.50pm** – Test screen available to test your equipment

**8.00pm**

### Session 1

#### In the busyness

Opening first with a message of Welcome to Homegrown for parents and carers, Tony Sharp (Who Let the Dads Out?) and Anna Hawken (Parenting for Faith) will share how we can be intentional in growing faith with our family at home without having to add to our already packed schedules.

**8.20pm**

### Session 2

#### Nobody's perfect

Andy Frost (the Kitchen Table Project) will help to dispel the guilt we often feel as parents when we don't always get it right or know all the answers. Followed by time for discussion and reflection. Questions to guide you through this time:

- Is there a part of your life with God that you could help your child to see, hear or understand better? It could be something you routinely do, or just your response to the ups and downs of life with God.



- In what ways can you show your children that you are not trying to be ‘perfect’? How can you model apologising and showing forgiveness, or explore answers to challenging questions together?

**8.40pm**

# Session 3

## Starting points



Rachel Turner (Parenting for Faith) will share some key tools to help you get started or carry on finding what works for your family, wherever you’re at right now. Questions for later discussion and follow up:

- How can I help my child have their own relationship with God, without always needing me as the ‘high priest’ to help them connect?
- What is my child showing an interest in at the moment, where I could come alongside them?

**8.55pm – Q&A panel (send your questions in during the event)**

**9.20pm – Drawing conclusions**

**9.30pm – Event comes to a close**

**Use this space below to note down anything of interest or that you plan to follow up:** .....

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# Homegrown

## Programme for daytime event for audience in attendance

Wednesday 9 October, 9.00am-12.30pm

There is additional content provided for those joining in Homegrown at Cliff College as part of the studio audience. This includes these sessions on the morning of Wednesday 9 October.

**9.00am – Opening Devotions**

**9.30am**

## Session 1

Participants will join in three short sessions provided by Parenting for Faith, the Kitchen Table Project and Who Let the Dads Out? They are as follows:

### **1. Parenting for faith in my home, church or community**

Discover the free resources that are available from Parenting for Faith to help children and teens meet and know God. We'll look at ways to resource and equip yourself as leaders and how to empower and encourage parents too. Feel free to share what's going on where you are and any specific questions you have.

### **2. Who Let The Dads Out? Why churches benefit from working with fathers and their children**

Explore the theology that underpins the 300+ Who Let The Dads Out? groups operating across the UK and beyond, and how these groups can help families to both discover and pass on faith. We'll look at what happens in a 'typical' group and how dads and father figures have been encouraged to pass on their values and beliefs to their children.





### 3. The Kitchen Table Project – Getting parents talking about faith at home

Explore some of the Kitchen Table Project’s resources from Care for the Family, which may help you to gather together parents to encourage each other and share ideas about bringing faith into everyday life. We’d love to hear stories about where you are on this journey and to answer any questions you may have.

**10.45am – Refreshment break**

**11.00am**

## Session 2

### Nurturing faith at home: reflecting on our contexts



This session brings together all that’s been explored during the past 24 hours and offers an opportunity to generate some concrete ideas of ways to apply learning in our own contexts.

**12.30pm – Closing reflections**



**Use this space below to note down anything of interest or that you plan to follow up:** .....

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# Next steps

This conference has hopefully informed and challenged you to take some further steps. You may want to take some time in the following weeks and months to take action on your learning.



## For general reflection following the conference:

- What would you like more information about?
- What do you need to continue doing?
- Who are the key people in your church and community who you need to build relationships with to develop your practice supporting faith at home?
- What is the one key piece of learning from Homegrown that you want to remember?
- Is there a story you could share that will encourage others?
- Who else would benefit from this conference? (Resources will remain available online, so encourage colleagues, friends and family to view at their leisure.)

## Next steps for practitioners and church leaders

There's a wealth of small group resources available to continue exploring faith at home:

- If you want to help parents to start those conversations about growing faith at home, why not host the Kitchen Table Project's easy-to-run, stand-alone small group Inspire session?  
([kitchentable.org.uk/inspire](http://kitchentable.org.uk/inspire))
- If you want to explore some of the themes discussed in the conference over several weeks or in greater depth, you could consider running a Parenting for Faith or Raising Faith course, whether that's with a few people at home or a larger event at church  
([www.parentingforfaith.org/course](http://www.parentingforfaith.org/course) and [www.cff.org.uk/raisingfaith](http://www.cff.org.uk/raisingfaith)).



## Training and ideas

Here are some ways to develop your learning and practice further:

- Join the Parenting for Faith group for children, youth and family leaders ([facebook.com/groups/PFFCYFLeaders/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/PFFCYFLeaders/)) to access a free monthly webinar called 'Lunch with Rachel', with more teaching from Rachel Turner.
- Come on the 'Forge' gathering, a three-day retreat for anyone involved in children's, youth or family ministry. ([www.parentingforfaith.org/theforge](http://www.parentingforfaith.org/theforge)).
- Sign up to the Kitchen Table Project's monthly email for further resources and ideas ([kitchentable.org.uk/join](http://kitchentable.org.uk/join)).
- Look at the church toolkit for ideas for further exploration with your church ([kitchentable.org.uk/toolkit/](http://kitchentable.org.uk/toolkit/)).

## Books

- *Raising Faith* is a magazine-style book, packed with bite-sized articles and ideas to try out in the busyness of family life.
- Books from Parenting for Faith
- *Who Let the Dads Out?* Parent and toddler work can transform relationships and strengthen families, yet sometimes men may have very limited access to the parent and toddler world. This book tells the story of how *Who Let The Dads Out?* came into being. It gives a practical guide for setting up and running monthly sessions, complete with theological background, real-life case studies, helpful hints and tips, and twelve easy craft ideas.

## Next steps for parents

Here are some suggested small group resources to use at home:

- If you are interested in talking about growing faith at home with other parents, check out the Kitchen Table Project's stand-alone small group Inspire session. It's free and easy to run, with everything you need available to download. All you need to do is gather together some parents and pop the kettle on ([kitchentable.org.uk/inspire](http://kitchentable.org.uk/inspire)).
- To explore some of the themes discussed in today's conference over several weeks or in greater depth, consider organising a Parenting for Faith or Raising Faith course, whether that's with a few people at home or a larger event at church ([www.parentingforfaith.org/course](http://www.parentingforfaith.org/course) and [www.cff.org.uk/raisingfaith](http://www.cff.org.uk/raisingfaith)).

## Ongoing encouragement

- Subscribe to the Parenting for Faith podcast to get a 20-minute episode every week. Search wherever you usually get your podcasts or go to [www.parentingforfaith.org/podcast](http://www.parentingforfaith.org/podcast).
- Sign up to be part of an online community and receive monthly encouragement and practical tips for nurturing your children's faith ([kitchentable.org.uk/join](http://kitchentable.org.uk/join)).



## Websites and social media

Find out about everything that's going on, get in contact with other parents, share ideas and experiences and keep up to date with new ideas and resources.

### Care for the Family

[www.cff.org.uk](http://www.cff.org.uk)

@Care4theFamily on Twitter

### Who Let The Dads Out?

[www.careforthefamily.org.uk/faith-in-the-family/wltdo](http://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/faith-in-the-family/wltdo)

Group on Facebook and @dadsout on Twitter

### Kitchen Table Project

[kitchentable.org.uk/ktpcampaign](http://kitchentable.org.uk/ktpcampaign)

Page on Facebook and @ktpcampaign on Twitter

### Parenting for Faith

(from the Bible Reading Fellowship)

[www.parentingforfaith.org](http://www.parentingforfaith.org)

Page on Facebook and @godconnected on Twitter

### The Well and The Methodist Children, Youth and Family Team

[www.methodist.org.uk/childrenandyouth](http://www.methodist.org.uk/childrenandyouth)

Find our pages on Facebook and @childrenyouth on Twitter

Search for The Well Learning Hub on youtube

# parenting for faith

## Want to help your child or teen connect with God in everyday life?

Continue your journey growing faith at home with Rachel Turner and the Parenting for Faith team



Discover five easy-to-use tools in a matter of minutes



Listen to our weekly 20-minute podcast for even more ideas



Watch our free online course on your own or with others



 @godconnected

 parentingforfaithBRF

[parentingforfaith.org](http://parentingforfaith.org)

Parenting for Faith is part of The Bible Reading Fellowship, a Registered Charity (233280)



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