

Talking to kids about money

with Jess Monteiro from CAP UK

Welcome to this Parenting for Faith pop-up! At Parenting for Faith, we believe that you, the parents and carers, are the best people to help your children and teens meet and know God. We have five **Key Tools** to help you do this as a normal part of everyday life. This evening, we'll be applying some of those tools to how we talk to our kids about money. Your family is unique and you are the expert in your own child(ren), so don't worry if your ideas and next steps are different to somebody else's. Listen to the discussion on **Facebook Live**, add your comments and questions and chat with God and the people that you're with to explore what the next steps for your family might be.

The Facebook Live discussion

At Parenting for Faith, we often talk about how we have to '**surf the waves**' of situations we find ourselves in or of things our children are asking about or interested in. At the moment, many of us are 'surfing the wave' of financial difficulties or changes we're making because of the rise in the cost of living. So how can we talk to kids about this? Here are two of the **Key Tools** that Anna and Jess will share that we could use:

We can **frame** ('explain') to kids what the Bible says about money.

You might want to talk about things like:

- The Bible has lots to say about money. It's not something God is embarrassed to talk about!
- God tells us to work hard at what we do. You could share what you work at and why.
- God owns everything and gives us money and things to steward for him.
- It's really hard when you need things and don't have them. The Bible says that God will provide for us but that doesn't always happen how we want and in ways that we expect. You could share examples from your life.
- Any money we have is a powerful tool we can use to help other people. God can guide us in what to do with it.
- Having money can also make us want more of it. We need to be careful to appreciate what we have and spend money wisely.

We can '**create windows**' (help our children see) into how we value and use money.

- Your kids learn a lot from you, but so much of what we do with money is hidden from them unless we choose to show them and talk to them about what is going on. How could you do that?
- This gets them thinking about how to look after and use their own money well.
- It's okay to get it wrong or struggle with this. You can also share with them spending decisions you regret or other struggles you have with money, how it makes you feel and where God is in that.

Discussion question ideas

- What are the questions your kids are asking about money? Or where do they show an interest in it?
- Which ideas do you think you need to 'frame' for your child(ren) at the moment? How might you do that?
- How could you 'create windows' into what you do with money or how you think about it?
- What is one thing that you'll take away from this evening to try as a next step for your family?

Further resources

- **CAP UK** (Christians Against Poverty).
- Listen to our recent **podcast with Jess Monteiro** on the cost of living and money.
- **Grace and the Grumbles** family resources from CAP UK.