

Pop-up small groups leaders' information

Thank you so much for joining us. Our vision for pop-up small groups is that they build community and provide a safe place for people to listen, ask, discuss and find their next step... without much prep required from you. If you can provide coffee and community, we'll provide the content to get people talking!

We are not trying to give definitive answers or 'how tos' in these evenings, but want to start a thought-provoking discussion which gives people ideas and helps them to find their next step. **Our approach** is to recognise that every family is unique and that parents and carers are the experts in their own children. By using the **Key Tools**, every parent and carer can help their child connect with God as a normal part of everyday life.

Church plays a really important role in this, by being the supportive community that encourages and equips parents and carers along the way. We ask people to think about the next steps for their child or family rather than searching for a 'right answer'. You can support your group by using this language and approach too. This should help people feel able to share their thoughts and ideas, without fear of getting it 'wrong'.

Exploring these big issues in community is really helpful, as it allows people to share ideas and learn from each other before considering what they think. Pop-up small groups aim to be a safe space where that can happen. You can support people by setting a culture of journeying together and guiding people to listen well, love well and encourage each other.

In advance

- Decide how you want to gather people – this could be at church, in a home or homes, or getting individuals to watch on their own but with a video call for the discussion time.
- Spread the word so everyone knows they are welcome and when and where you are meeting. We have a shareable image with the details available on our social media and website that you can use in your own social media, emails, WhatsApp messages or websites.
- You might also choose to print or send copies of the handout in advance.

On the night

- **7.30/7.45 pm** – If meeting in person, gather people for coffee and to catch up.
- **8.00 pm** – We will go live on the **Parenting for Faith Facebook page**. You'll see the video appear at the top of the page. If you don't, try refreshing the page and scrolling down. You can watch on a phone, a smart TV (click on Facebook) or link a laptop to a TV or projector. People may want to have the video playing on their phones (muted) so they can comment individually. The video will be available afterwards so you are welcome to run this event at a different time.
- **8.30 pm** – We'll take questions and respond to them, and then stop the live broadcast. Encourage people to chat (in person or online) about what stood out to them, what they agreed or disagreed with and what the next step for their family might be. You can use the discussion questions on the handout to guide you.
- **9.00/9.30 pm** – Wrap up and go home. You might want to follow up with an email or text.

Talking to kids about TV and screen time

with Joanna Adeyinka-Burford

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 these tools to how we talk to our children and young people about TV and screen time. Listen to the discussion on **Facebook Live** and add your comments and questions. Then explore your next steps by discussing this with the people around you.

The Facebook Live discussion

Screen watching of some sort is a big part of many of our children's and young people's lives. Helping them meet and know God happens in the normal, everyday bits of life and that can absolutely include what they watch and how we talk about it. Anna will be talking to TV presenter and actress Joanna Adeyinka-Burford about how we can use the Key Tools to have great conversations with our kids about screen time. Here's an outline of three of the tools they'll be looking at:

- **Creating Windows** – Children and young people learn from us and others around them. If we can create windows into our own viewing habits, and what part God plays in those, we are helping them understand how God might be part of their viewing. By letting them see or understand the boundaries we create for ourselves, or how God influences what and how we watch, we give them ideas for how God might be involved in their screen time too.
- **Framing** – The sheer variety of what's available to view can provide lots of opportunities for us to talk about the world and where God is in it. And if kids are worried, confused or affected by what they view, we can help them learn how to handle that, so that they begin to create their own boundaries around media usage that keep their minds and hearts safe.
- **Surfing the waves** – When we spot something our child or teen is interested in, whether it's an influencer or a Netflix series, it can be an opportunity to engage them in conversation around it – whether we link it to faith or not. Can we ask curious questions or chat and catch questions inspired by their favourite programme? Does their favourite YouTuber provide an opportunity to talk about topics like friendship or sexuality? Does it indicate an interest in an area that they want to find out more about – and, if so, how can we position ourselves to point to God as the expert and the Bible as our guide?

Further links

- [Left to their own devices](#) from [Care for the Family](#)
- [The TV, film and social media section of the Parenting for Faith website](#)
- [Reviews database of the latest films, TV shows, music and books on Premier NexGen](#)
- [Joanna's website](#)

Discussion question ideas

- What programmes do you choose to watch or not watch? Why? How do you feel during and afterwards? Have you ever shared any of that with your kids? Could you?
- How could you equip your kids to connect with you and with God when they feel worried, confused or sad by something they watch?
- What TV programmes or screen-based activities are your kids drawn to? How could you help them connect with God through it? Does what they are interested in show a passion or gift that God has given them?
- Is there anything from tonight that you might like to try when you next talk to your family about TV and screen time?