



## ◆ Resources for faith formation in daily family life

- [Messy Lyfe: Living Life with Jesus](#) by Rob Hare and Lucy Moore  
6 week devotional for families at home about how Jesus is always with us so how do we learn how to be with him? Each week gives things you could do or ways to respond that are already part of your day/week. These simple actions won't add to your to-do list. Could also be used by a family life group.
- [Family activities for exploring the KCO 2018 theme](#)  
In the lead up to KCO, families may like to explore the 2018 KCO theme "Welcome: A Place to belong." This theme aims to celebrate living life together and living into God's generous and hospitable ways.
- [Intergen Team's Activities for Lent and Easter](#) for families or church use, includes crafts, family activities, ideas for intergenerational elements in worship and more. Also includes links to other resource websites for Lent and Easter.
- <http://childrensministry.org.au/category/lent/>  
A variety of Lent activities for homes and churches collated by Uniting Church NSW & ACT, including Families Lent calendar, grace cube and family blessings (devotions).
- [Faith Development at Home](#) (430 kb PDF) This short document offers many practical ways that churches can support families with faith development, as well as helpful resources and courses.
- [The big ten Faith at Home](#) (41 kb PDF) This document offers 10 prompts – ideas, tips, and resources – for families and churches that encourage faith formation in the home.

**RESOURCES** (the following information is in the *Faith Development at Home* pdf, listed above)

A large variety of tools is available to help parents in developing their children's faith. Here are a few that are simple, effective and easy to use:

- Family Huddles — the Faith Five steps (talk about the highs and lows of the day; read from Scripture; discuss how the Scripture relates to your highs and lows, pray for one another, bless one another) — five minutes a day to bring your family closer together and closer to God. See the resource on our website for more information <http://sa.uca.org.au/intergen/family-resources/familyfaith/faith-5-family> or visit Faith Ink Stepping Stones [www.faithink.com.au](http://www.faithink.com.au)
- Devotional Books (for families and/or for children) – visit your local Christian bookshop and find something that suits your family. Churches may be able to recommend local bookshops or resources.
- Bibles (age-appropriate) – In Australia we are blessed with many different types of Bibles and Bible storybooks for children of all ages. Choose ones that suit your family, stick closely to the Biblical content and are easy for your children to hold and read. Churches may be able to recommend suitable Bibles.
- Taking Faith Home leaflets for families, related to the Revised Common Lectionary used in many churches. See <https://milestonesministry.org/taking-faith-home/>

## ◆ Four key things parents can do to nurture faith in homes:

- Caring Conversation
- Serving as a Family
- Family Rituals and Traditions
- Family Devotions

These are strategies for making faith nurture a priority and intentional in the home.

These are strategies that congregations can give to parents – and support parents in using.

### **Caring Conversation**

Conversation takes time – often it's the kids who determine when the time is right.

Conversation involves both listening and talking. Conversation doesn't just drop into a family's way of doing things. Effective, caring conversation in families develops over time. Honest conversation about little things lays the groundwork for serious conversation about the big issues.

### **Service**

Developing an attitude of helping one another within the family and also doing things in the wider community as a family.

### **Family rituals and traditions**

Every family develops some rituals; the predictability of 'the way we do something' makes life in any group run smoothly. But what we want to offer parents is faith-nurturing rituals and help them to incorporate into their lifestyle are rituals or traditions that are intentionally discipling.

*Can you suggest some faith forming rituals or traditions from your family?*

### **Family devotions**

*What could these look like? What resources have you used or are aware of?*

-Introduce *Faith 5*.

<http://sa.uca.org.au/intergen/family-resources/familyfaith/faith-5-family>

## ◆ Family Practices

What does a Christian household look like? What makes a Christian family different from other families? It's not just about going to church. It's about what is done at home.

<http://sa.uca.org.au/intergen/family-resources/familyfaith/family-practices/> you will find a range of fact sheet-style resources that will help Christian families develop practices that nourish faith. Topics include Advent, Birthdays, Prayer, Mealtimes, Moving House, Mornings, Retirement and Engaging in environmental sustainability. **Family Practices** sheets are valuable for:

- parents with young children
- adults who are establishing a new family or household
- people in established households who want to be more intentional about being a missional home where faith is spoken about and put into practice.

## Intern Year 2018



**Intern Year** is an exciting one-year program designed to disciple and cultivate young Christian leaders. If you are between 18 and 25 years old, an active member of your local congregation and seek to grow as a leader, live life with purpose and learn the foundations of Christian discipleship, ministry and mission, Intern Year is for you!

Join a diverse community of students at the ACD and undertake units in the nationally recognised Certificate IV in Christian Life & Ministry.

For more information or to enrol, contact Intern Year Coordinator Mike Wardrop, [mwardrop@sa.uca.org.au](mailto:mwardrop@sa.uca.org.au) or on 0430 666 959.

## Invigor8 Children and Family Ministry Conference

A poster for the Invigor8 Children and Family Ministry Conference. The top half features a circular logo with a wreath border, containing the text "Invigor8 CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY CONFERENCE" and "24 FEB 2018". Below the logo, it says "New inspirations, tools and perspectives to help Invigor8 parents and those involved in children's and family ministry." and "ADELAIDE WEST UNITING CHURCH BROOKLYN PARK". The bottom half of the poster is teal and lists "KEY NOTE SPEAKERS MARK AND LISA SCANDRETTE" with their book "Belonging and Becoming: Creating a thriving family culture". It also features a cartoon illustration of a boy and a girl, and lists "Workshops • Expo • Free Children's Program • Family Stream". Pricing is listed as \$60 Individual, \$50 Parents, \$35 Half Day (morning or afternoon), \$55 Member of a group of 5+, and \$50 Member of a group of 10+. Registration dates are "4 December 2017 - 18 February 2018" and the website is "www.blueprintministries.org.au". Logos for Lutheran Church of Australia, South Australia Northern Territory, Blueprint Ministries, and Uniting Church are at the bottom.

The **Invigor8 Children and Family Ministry Conference** is the Intergen Team's annual training event for parents and children and family ministry practitioners – both paid and voluntary. It is hosted by the Lutheran Church SA/NT in partnership with Uniting Church SA. The 2018 conference keynote speakers are Mark and Lisa Scandrette who will be sharing about creating a thriving family culture.