



What do you do about faith at home?

Faith in the Nexus - Animation & Discussion on Faith at Home

Questions for discussion for children, parents, schools & churches

How to watch and discuss

When you use this animation as a stimulus for discussion, be aware that there are opportunities for people to disclose in a personal way that may require some care and sensitivity. How you introduce the animation will depend on your gauging how well the group knows each other and the extent to which they are likely to trust each other.

Watch the animation first (in class, as a group of parents, in a school INSET session or church group) without any comment. Then watch it again, asking the group to note down the children's words that seem particularly important to them. You may suggest they first make a word cloud on their own, or, if you do the exercise as a group, a mind map may help explore the deeper meanings of the words in a free discussion. Use the following questions to explore these words.

For each group, a pair of Year 5/6 children's quotes from the animation introduces the topic, followed by questions (or a task) relevant to each of the audiences – children, parents & school/church.

Scan or tap to watch
the animation
bit.ly/nexus-006



What does it feel like to encounter faith at home? Or What does faith look like at home?

"My mum and me and my sister before we go to bed we always pray."

"My nanna, she went to church before my mum, and she brought my mum to the church and they grew up in the church together, they went to church almost every day."

Children

- Who are you most likely to talk to at home about God and faith?
(Task for the group with teacher/leader: Draw a mind map on the board or a large piece of paper with this question in a circle in the middle.)
Mention one or more people for the teacher/leader to write on one side of the circle.
- What is it about that person that might make you want to talk with them about faith?
On the other side of the circle write down the qualities or characteristics (use single adjectives if possible) of that person or those people.
- Talk about each quality in turn. Which do you feel also describes what you are like?

Parents

“My sister and my father read the Bible. My father reads an online Bible as well. My sister and my dad share the same like mini-Bible. My mum doesn’t really believe in any faith, but she will still read the Bible with my dad and my sister. And I would sit in my room and pray.”

“Yes, sometimes, so me and my family we light the candles and we set them up on the floor in a line and we have the dog and cat with us, but we make sure they don’t go near the fire. And then we all sit there praying to Jesus.”

- a. Some of the children we spoke to enjoyed speaking at length about their experience of faith at home. To what extent do their comments chime with your experience as a parent?
- b. What conditions do you try to create to encourage children to grow in their faith in God?

School/Church

A child speaking about praying at home says...

“Me, my mum, my sister and sometimes my dad joins in even though he isn’t a Catholic. And we do prayers before we go to bed.”

Individual teachers/support staff:

- a. What conditions do you try to create in your classroom to encourage children to grow in their faith in God?
To what extent are parents/carers welcomed to get involved?

School & Church leaders:

- a. On a strategic level, how are parents/carers involved in helping to create those conditions that encourage children to grow in their faith in God?
- b. To what extent do school policies and their practice reflect an environment where the growth of children’s faith is central? Start with Discipline, Pedagogy, Homework...

Finally: What Next?

How might you use this animation and discussion to change, improve, adapt, or strengthen what you currently do in class and school, at home and in church?

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