

let's talk family UK – Reporting summary

Country: UK

Number of participants: 50

Date: 26th May '16

Names and Organisations/Denominations of the Team Leader & the members of the Planning Team:

Jane Butcher (BRF); Alan Charter (GCF); Ruth Hassall (Birmingham Diocese); Kay Morgan-Gurr (Children Matter!); Benedict Mwendwa (Salvation Army); Dave Roberts (Children Matter!); Sarah Smart (SU)

Top 5 responses to:

What makes a healthy family/household?

- 1. Affirmed the important and impactful roles of all family members**
- 2. Whole church support reflected by an inter-generational theology & practice (Owned by leadership)**
- 3. Practical equipping to support whole family discipleship**
- 4. Enable and value participation at all levels**
- 5. Families connected and belonging to a wider community**

What is preventing healthy families/households?

- 1. Lack of confidence, particularly with parents and grandparents**
- 2. Low level of equipping to build resilient faith in a changing world**
- 3. Disempowerment of parents as primary spiritual carers by church structures and trends**
- 4. Limited church models and lack of leadership towards intergenerational church as the norm**
- 5. Changing societal influences and the nature of family (e.g. for boys/dads in a feminine church)**

What initiatives have come out of your conversation?

- **Build a UK Family alliance (around 35 participants expressed interest) and link to the Global Family Alliance**
- **Develop social media group and presence to connect and signpost to examples of good practice etc.**
- **Explore wider connections, helping ante-natal parents and across children, youth & family ministry**
- **Seek ways to simplify, e.g. 3 small things to pass on as parents**
- **Other options could include an online resource site; direct engagement with church leaders; promotion of intergenerational gatherings**



Exploring a journey together to develop long term, practical possibilities for change for the families of our nation