## Certificate in Faith Formation for the 21st Century

## *What’s Your Congregation’s Approach to Families?*

Identify your congregation’s approach with families using the following questions. (See Chapters 1 and 3 in *Families at the Center of Faith Formation* for background.) For each question, identify your congregation’s current practice with parents and/or families using the rating scale:

**1 = not at all 3 = often 5 = a lot.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. We *express care* with the families in our congregations and communities, including listening to them, showing interest in their lives, and investing in them.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We *challenge growth* in families by expecting them to live up to their potential and helping them learn from their mistakes.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We *provide support* and advocacy when families really need it.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We *share power* with families, treating them as true partners by giving them voice in things that matter to them and collaborating with them to solve problems and reach goals.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We encourage families to *expand possibilities* by connecting them with other people, ideas, and opportunities to help them grow.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We offer regular *gatherings of all our families* for learning, worship, service, relationship-building, and more throughout the year.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We engage families *together with the whole community* for learning, worship, service, relationship-building, and more throughout the year.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We find ways *to reach families at home* with support, resources, and activities to develop family life and grow in faith.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We *strengthen families* by helping them develop the practices and skills for healthy family life.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We equip parents with the *knowledge and skills* for effective parenting and forming faith in young people.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We engage parents *as leaders and contributors* in the congregation and in the community.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We design ministries, projects, and activities that *complement and reinforce* the role of families in faith formation.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We recognize the *family as the epicenter* of faith formation across the generations.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. We celebrate the evidence of *vibrant faith at work* in the everyday lives of families and their young people.
 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |