

# Worksheet: Changing the Narrative

From a primary focus on. . . .	Toward an emphasis on. . . .
Viewing the parish as the center of faith forming	Recognizing and equipping the family as the center of faith forming
Forming the faith of individuals	Forming the faith of the whole family
Engaging individual in church life	Engaging the whole family in church life
Prescribing programs and activities for the family and its members	Building faith formation around the lives and needs of families and parents
Doing things “to” or “for” families	Sharing power with families and treating them as partners
Starting with messaging to families	Start with listening to families
Buying into negative stereotypes of families	Highlight families’ strengths and resilience
Giving families expert advice about what to do	Encouraging families to experiment with new practices
Focusing on parenting as a set of techniques	Emphasizing parenting as a relationship
Intimidating parents with policies and requirements	Informing parents of their role and empowering them to fulfill their role as faith formers of children and teens