

## Begin with Assets Activity

- Take a jar that is bigger at the bottom than at the top.
- First, put foam balls in the jar. Seven foam balls represent things in the congregation that are not helpful (i.e. – we never did it that way before, we are small, we don't have enough people, you are asking us to change, etc.)
- Second, put handfuls of small wrapped candy (such as individually wrapped lifesavers or tootsie rolls) in the jar. Candy represent assets that a congregation has (i.e., people, building, gifts, God, etc.)
- Fill jar with the candy and put lid on jar.
- What went in first? Things which are not helpful. What went in second?  
Assets.
- Pour everything out of the jar.
- Now put in the candy first. What are the assets that we named?
- Then put in the foam balls. The foam balls will not all fit and if they do, you cannot put the lid on.
- Conclusion – start with assets, focus on assets and then there is not enough room for those things which are not helpful.
- When we are planning a project/activity/ministry/new venture.....we always begin with what we have and not with what we do not have. This is called asset-based thinking.

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