

The Giving Game

- We are going to play a game – it is a giving/receiving game.
- What you need a small cup (3 oz) for each person with 7-10 pieces of candy in them. You can use Skittles, Jelly Beans, M&M's, etc.
- Here are the rules. Each of you is going to receive a cup with candy in it. When I say 'start' you are asked to give and receive candy with people as many times as you want. Please pour your candy from one cup to another, don't use your hands. We want to maintain some semblance of sanitation, in case you want to eat the candy later. For the first minute, as you give and receive candy you cannot look the person in the eye or say anything to them – no interaction. After a minute, I will tell you that you can then have conversation, look each in the eye – you can interact.
- Ready? Go!
- Time the group for 1 minute.....then tell them they can interact.....after the second one minute period have them return to their seats.
- Giving and Receiving – are you a better giver or receiver?
- Some of us are more comfortable in one of these roles than the other.
- But we are called to be in both of these roles in our lives. There cannot be givers without receivers and there cannot be receivers without givers.
- How did it feel not to be able to interact as you gave and received during that first minute?
- Did notice what happened when you started to interact during the second minute?
- Giving and receiving is about relationship.
- How does this relate to the ministry that we do in our neighborhoods and communities?
- We can collect food for a food pantry – and this is good – good to give. But when we are involved in distributing the food to people and visiting with them and getting to know them – when we are developing relationship with them – it makes the giving a much richer experience.
- I don't know how many times I have thought to myself – I am going to serve in some mission project and I think that I am going to bless the people to whom I am giving. And you know what happens? As I take time to be in relationship with these people – I am the one who comes away blessed.
- How are we building relationships and how are we being the church as we development missions and ministries that connect us to the community?

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