

Hitting the Reset Button

Today's kids are caught up in video games, playing day and night. The video games are usually not helpful in the learning process and actually can be a detriment. This article will use the video game to teach some Biblical truths.

(Hold up video game system or display a picture of one.)

Good morning class. How many of you like to play video games?

There is a lot of Biblical truths we can learn from a video game. I bet you didn't know that did you?

Ask some questions and wait on answers.

What is your favorite game?

Are you good at it?

Have you ever messed up in the game or lost?

What did you do?

I know when I mess up I hit the reset button and start over. Have you ever done that?

Sometimes you don't like how the game is going and you want to start over. Does that happen?

When you start over you don't make the same mistake again, you usually do that part right. Right?

Now Life is not exactly a video game is it?

We do mess up sometimes though right?

Sometime we do things that are just wrong like telling lies, disobeying parents or fighting.

The Bible tells us that this is sin.

Sin is anything we do, say or think that God would be against.

Have you ever sinned?

Can we go back and start a day or a week over so that we can get it right? NO!

If we can't go back what can we do to start over, Can we erase the past? NO.

What we cant do God can do. Let's look at a couple Bible Verse.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away and the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17 is telling us that if we put our faith in Jesus we become new. All the old wrong stuff we did belonged to the life we had before believing in Jesus. It's like getting a new life in a video game or starting over. We don't go back to the beginning of our life and start over, but we start from that point with all our mess-ups erased. Let's look at the next verse.

1 John 1:9

If we confess or sin, he is faithful and just to forgive us or sin and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:19 is telling us that we need to admit our sin to Jesus and to ask for forgiveness.

What will God do if we ask for forgiveness?

Right. He will wipe them all away. We don't have to worry about our past mess-ups, but we need to go forward trying not to make the same mistakes, like in the video game we learn from our mistakes and get past those obstacles.

Should you make mistakes, sin, just because you can ask forgiveness? No, God knows and doesn't like those kind of thoughts!

Maybe you have never heard of Jesus and how he can give you a reset on your life; you have a lot of mess-ups in your life, you don't like how the game is going and you feel like you are losing.

When a video game is over you can go and do other things, but when life is over what happens. The Bible tells us that one of two things will happen. We will go to Heaven and be with Jesus forever or we will go to a place called Hell and be punished for our sin- our mess-ups. Our sin keeps us from Heaven and we need to get rid of it.

God doesn't want to punish us forever, he wants us to be in Heaven.

God provided a way for us to get rid of our sin and go to Heaven.

Jesus took the punishment for our sin when he died on the cross for us.

If we want to do a reset and have our sin wiped away there three things that must happen.

1. Believe Jesus was God, and that he took the punishment for your sin when he died on the cross and rose again.
2. Admit that you have sinned and ask God for forgiveness.
3. Ask God to help you become more like Jesus.

Here is a prayer you can say.

(Have the kids bow their heads and close their eyes. Say the prayer and let kids choose to repeat it.)

Dear God, I know I am a sinner because I've done wrong things; please forgive me.
I believe Jesus is your son; he died on the cross to save me and rose three days later to be with you.
Please become God of my life. Lead me to make good choices and tell others about Jesus.
In Jesus name Amen.

(Ask kids to keep heads down and eyes closed. Ask any kid to raise her hand if that is the first time she ever said a prayer like that; believing in Jesus. Ask the child to go to another children's worker, if available. That worker will reaffirm salvation and discuss what it means with the child.)

Follow-up to lesson

Sometimes video games come with instruction manuals; what are they for?
They help you through the game.

God gave us an instruction manual for life. What do you think it is?

Right, the Bible.

If we read our Bible that will help us big-time through life, and with Jesus we will win!