

GUYS-ONLY VIDEO GAME LOCK-IN

Video games are a common language for most guys—here's how we used video games as the basis for a great outreach.

We asked guys in our youth group to bring their PlayStation 2, Xbox, and Nintendo video game systems, along with "clean" video games, to an overnight lock-in—and we also encouraged them to bring as many friends as possible.

We set up tables and TVs around the youth room, turning it into a video game room for the night. We hooked up one system to the projector, so a game could be shown on the wall in life-sized images.

Guys were invited to arrive between 8

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and 10 on Friday night, but once they came inside, they had to stay until 8 a.m. We ate snacks and played video games until around midnight, when we stopped for a short Bible study and gospel presentation. Then the students went back to their video games for the rest of the night. This was a great experience for everyone—all the kids built friendships with others they'd never spent much time with before, and the unchurched kids got to hear a clear presentation of the gospel.

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