

VALID / NOT VALID

Volunteer Game Guide

Game Objective

Help students recognize the difference between having a valid hurt and using that hurt to justify sinful responses. The goal is discussion and discernment, not embarrassment.

Supplies

- Two signs: VALID and NOT VALID
- Scenario cards
- Open space for students to move.

Setup

Place the VALID sign on one side of the room and the NOT VALID sign on the opposite side. Explain that every situation involves a real emotion, but the response may or may not be valid.

Leader Instructions

Read one scenario at a time. Students move to the side they believe best fits the response described. After everyone chooses, invite 2–3 students to explain their reasoning before revealing the biblical principle.

Scenario Cards

1. Someone gossiped about you, so you gossip back.
2. A friend forgot your birthday, and you feel hurt.
3. Someone excludes you, so you refuse to speak to them.
4. You forgive someone even though they never apologized.
5. You stay angry because 'they deserve it.'
6. You tell a trusted leader because someone is bullying you.
7. You post something online hoping to embarrass someone.
8. You set healthy boundaries while choosing forgiveness.
9. You assume someone's motives without asking them.
10. You pray for someone who hurt you.

Debrief

Ask: • Can a hurt be real and still lead to a wrong response? • What's the difference between forgiveness and pretending nothing happened? • Which scenarios were hardest to decide? • How did Jesus respond when He was rejected (Luke 9:51–56)?

Volunteer Notes

Don't argue with students during the game. Let them explain their thinking, then allow the teaching time to bring biblical clarity. Keep the discussion respectful and focused on learning.