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Do you ever wish you could have a do-over?

I know I do! When I mishandle a situation with my kids, I wish I could go back, start over, and respond rather than react.

When I say something to my husband with a disrespectful tone in my voice, I want to rewind the tape and start over.

If you've have found yourself longing for a do-over, there's good news.

While there's no physical way to push the rewind button on our life, we have a God who is in the business of fresh starts. That's what Easter is all about!

Jesus' death on the cross was all about starting over. He died for us and then came to life again three days later. His death and resurrection set the pattern for what our life in God is to look like. When we mess up, God's forgiveness puts the sin to death and begins new life in our heart. It's the Easter story over and over again in our life. Easter is really all about do-overs!

So in real life it looks like this:

- I accept Christ as my Savior. I thank Him for His death on the cross for me, and I ask Him to be the leader of my life.
- When I mishandle a situation with my kids, I tell God I'm sorry. I accept His forgiveness and walk in His grace. Then I apologize to my kids, and I start over.
- When I speak to my husband disrespectfully, I apologize to God and accept His forgiveness. Then I apologize to my husband and walk confidently in my do-over.

Here's the best part: the more I apologize and make it right, the more I'm motivated to change. The full do-over happens when I allow God to transform my heart and I stop doing the same sin over and over again.

What if this Easter, it was less about the Easter bunny and eggs and more about a new life in Christ? What if we got serious about the do-over's God offers?

I think that's a treat that's sweeter than any chocolate filled Easter egg any day!

Jill

Wife of Mark
Mom to Anne, Evan, Erica, Kolya, and Austin
Nana to 11-month-old Rilyn

God's "Mom Revolution" Truth for You

"So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline...and regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it."

Colossians 3:12-14, The Message

Four Creative Ways to Teach Your Kids About Easter

Read the Easter story right from the Bible one night after dinner or before bed. If you use a New International Version (NIV) or The Message Bible, it helps make the story easier to understand. The Easter story can be found in several places but you can start in the book of Mark chapters 15 and 16.



Read the Easter story aloud while your kids are decorating Easter eggs. You'll have a captive audience.

Keep a stash of jelly beans for mom and dad's use only. In the week leading up to Easter leave a few jelly beans with short notes telling your children how much you love them or how you see God working in their lives. Leave the jellybeans and notes in some fun places for them to find them (under their pillows, in their lunch boxes, in their backpacks, or on their dressers).

Make your own Easter story eggs. Fill 9 plastic eggs with a Bible verse and a corresponding item that will help tell the Easter story. Number the eggs and place them in a basket you keep as a center piece on your kitchen table. Beginning nine days before Easter, allow your kids to open one egg each day in countdown order. Read the verse and talk about how the item is an important part of the Easter story. This helps tell the Easter story in a creative way. It's especially beneficial to those kids who best learn with hands-on activities. Here are the items you'll need:

#9	Cracker	Mark 14:22
#8	Three dimes	Matthew 26:14-15
#7	Thorn	Mark 15:17
#6	Two sticks (to make a cross)	John 19:16-17
#5	Nail	Luke 23:33
#4	White Cloth	Matthew 27:57-60
#3	Stone	Matthew 27:49-60
#2	Cinnamon Sticks	Mark 16:1
#1	(Empty)	Mark 16:5-6

If you don't want to make your own, you can find ready made Resurrection Eggs online or in Christian bookstores from *Family Life*. You'll find them online [HERE](#).

Did you know?

The Hearts at Home theme song, *Make My Heart Your Home*, is now on iTunes?

After the National Conference in March, we had so many requests for the song, we made arrangements for it to be available for you to download to your computer, mp3 player, iPod, or smartphone!



It's a special Mother's Day gift to your church or moms group!

When you order 30 or more copies of the book *Real Moms...Real Jesus* between now and Mother's Day, this regularly priced \$14 book is just \$5 a book!

Many churches and moms groups like to present their moms with a gift or special offer for Mother's Day. *Real Moms...Real Jesus* is the perfect gift for any mom in any season of life.

Whether her kids are toddlers or teenagers or whether her kids have kids of their own, *Real Moms...Real Jesus* offers a fresh perspective on Jesus' life on this earth. She'll be glad to know that Jesus is not an unattainable deity, but truly a Friend who understands.

Call 309-828-MOMS by Monday, April 25, to take advantage of this incredible Mother's Day special!

Mom REVOLUTION

**It's time to mark your calendar, organize your group,
and register to attend one of our fall conferences!**

October 7-8, 2011 ~ Colorado Springs, CO
November 4-5, 2011 ~ Rochester, MN

A Hearts at Home conference helps you:

- Feel refreshed and ready to embrace the challenges of motherhood.
- Enjoy a fun, getaway weekend with your friends.
- Experience a sense of encouragement and camaraderie with other moms.
- Remove the guilt of not being a perfect mom!

Click [HERE](#) to learn about our group discount for groups of 10 or more.

Click [HERE](#) to register for the October 7-8, Western Conference in Colorado Springs, CO.

Click [HERE](#) to register for the November 4-5, North Central Conference in Rochester, MN.

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