

## Rolling Out the Gospel

### INTRO FOR PARENTS:

There is nothing sweeter than the truth of Jesus' gift of salvation to us. Here is an easy (and yummy, and maybe a little messy) way to remind your family about the beautiful truth of Easter. May you spend quality time in the kitchen together to get a good visual that the tomb was empty because Jesus is alive!

### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Marshmallows (small or large)
- Crescent roll dough
- 1 stick butter
  - melted and slightly cooled in a small bowl
- 1 cup total of sugar-cinnamon
  - approx. 3 to 1 ratio (to taste) mixed in a small bowl
- Baking sheet with baking mat or parchment paper
- Oven preheated to 375 degrees
- Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd Jones

### HELPFUL HINTS:

- Start by preheating your oven to 375 degrees
- Texts that are **bolded** are meant to be read out loud
- Texts in *italics* are directions
- Texts in regular font are answers to the teaching questions
- Feel free to modify the teaching portion for younger children
- Start and end your time talking to God in prayer
- While the rolls are baking, read or watch the videos from the Jesus Storybook Bible

### TEACHING TIME:

**Who is Jesus?** (Jesus is God's Son)

**What is Jesus like?** (He is perfect. He is 100% God and 100% man)

**Everyone take a marshmallow but don't eat it yet. Tell me about your marshmallow. What's it like?** (It's soft and squishy, but it also smells so wonderful I can't help but want it. It's pure white.)

**What does pure white remind you of?** (Perfection, nothing wrong with it. It reminds me of how Jesus is pure and has NO sin.)

**So wait. We just said that Jesus has no sin. What is sin?!** (Sin is anything we say, think or do that doesn't please or honor God.)

**Who sins?** (I do! And you do. Romans 3:23 says that everyone does... everyone except Jesus.)

**Why is sin such a big deal?** (Sin separates us from God. Romans 6:23 says that sin earns us death. So, anyone who sins deserves death.)

**Who deserves punishment for sin? (everyone) And what's the punishment? (death)**

**That's really bad news! Is there good news? (Yes! There is the BEST news.)**

**What does Romans 5:8 say? ("God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.")**

**So wait, Jesus died for me and you?! Do I deserve punishment for my own sin? (Yes!)**

**Did Jesus deserve punishment for sin? (No, because He never sinned!)**

**Jesus never sinned but He took the punishment of sin that I deserve.**

**Then what happened? Did He just die and it was really sad?**

**No. The most amazing, wonderful, truly awesome thing ever happened...!**

**But before we get there, let's get back to the marshmallow. It will help us tell our story. What did we say it reminds us of? (Jesus) Why? (It's pure white and it's just so good.)**

**What happened to Jesus? (He died. He was killed by men who did not believe that He was actually God's Son.)**

**Back then, people who had died were anointed in oil and spices before they were buried. So let's take our marshmallow and dip it in the butter. (*Coat it really well.*) Now let's roll the buttery marshmallow in the cinnamon/sugar mixture. (*You can't overdo this so coat them well!*)**

**Jesus' body was put in a...? (tomb) Yes, Jesus was put in a tomb so let's wrap the marshmallow in the dough. (*Pro Tip: This part is tricky because you want to seal the dough around the marshmallow well with no holes. It's probably best for a parent to do this part.*)**

**It looks like a big rock, doesn't it? Tombs were kind of like caves carved into a giant rock and then sealed with a huge stone so there was no way in or out.**

**This, the marshmallow wrapped in the dough, reminds me of the sad part when Jesus died and was sealed in a tomb. This dough ball looks like a big rock where a sealed up tomb would be. (*Pro Tip: Make sure it's sealed up well. Then roll the dough ball in butter and cinnamon/sugar. Finish making rolls with the rest of the marshmallows and dough.*)**

**The sad part stayed sad for a while. (*Put the finished marshmallow-dough balls in the oven and check on them occasionally. They will need to cook for appx 10-15 min.*)**

**For days everyone was just super sad that Jesus was dead.**

**I want you to know that what I'm saying is true. Where do we go to find Truth? (We go to the Bible because the Bible is absolutely true, absolutely true, everything the Bible says is absolutely true.)**

While the rolls are baking read or watch the videos from the Jesus Storybook Bible. You can find the videos on YouTube or Facebook @jesusstorybookbible.

*“The Sun Stops Shining” (page 302)*

*“God’s Wonderful Surprise” (page 310)*

*After your kids have heard both stories, continue teaching. The rolls will be about ready. When the rolls are done they will have puffed up and the dough will look golden. Take them out and let them cool briefly.*

**Oh, my! Things were super sad, but then what amazing thing happened?! (Jesus rose on the third day!)**

**The tomb was empty! Why? Because Jesus is alive! Remember how Jesus didn’t deserve to die? He is God and He is perfect so He was able to die instead of us and take away the punishment that we deserve! He loves us SO much!**

*(Cut open one of the rolls.)*

**Look inside. (The roll will be hollow.) Where did my marshmallow go?! This reminds me that The tomb was empty! Why? Because Jesus is alive!**

**Because Jesus was perfect, never sinned, and did not deserve to die, He won! He rose again! He took away the death that we deserve and we get to have eternal life if we trust Him. Does anyone know John 3:16? (Let one of your kids say it if they know it.) John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him will not die but have eternal life.”**

**Easter is special because God did what only God can do. He rescued us. We all sin and we all need salvation from the punishment of sin. Who is the only one who can save us? (Jesus!) Only Jesus can save us because only Jesus is the perfect One that died and rose again.**

**Taste this. Isn’t it one of the sweetest most wonderful things you’ve ever tasted? God’s love for us is even sweeter than these rolls! This is why we can celebrate Easter... Because The tomb was empty! Why? Because Jesus is alive!**

*Say a quick prayer to God thanking Him that Jesus is alive and then enjoy your resurrection rolls!*