

RESURRECTION ROLLS

Ingredients:

- 1 package crescent rolls
- 8 large marshmallows
- 3 Tablespoons melted butter
- 3 Tablespoons sugar mixed with 1 Tablespoon cinnamon
- Parchment paper

Preheat your oven to 350 degrees. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. While the oven is preheating, get out your Bible and open to John 19 or find the Easter story in a children's Bible.

Say: "Even though Jesus was perfect and had never sinned – he had never done anything wrong – some people did not like him. They wanted to hurt Jesus because he said he was God's son. They made Jesus carry a cross and they killed him. This made God very sad, but it was all part of his great rescue plan. When Jesus died, his friends took his body off the cross."

Do: Give your child a marshmallow.

Say: "This marshmallow represents Jesus' body. Jesus died for you and me, because we have sinned and we need to be rescued from our sin."

Say: "After Jesus died, his friends came and they put special oil and spices on Jesus' body to get him ready for burial."

Do: Roll the marshmallow in melted butter, then in cinnamon sugar.

Say: "Next, Jesus' friends wrapped his body in special cloths. Jesus had died and they were getting his body ready to bury."

Do: Roll the cinnamon sugar marshmallow up in a crescent roll. Press all the seams together **firmly**. Repeat for each crescent roll. Place the rolls on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet.

Say: "Next, they laid Jesus' body in a tomb. A tomb is like a big cave carved out of rock. Then big strong soldiers rolled a heavy rock in front of the tomb so nobody could get in or out of the tomb. They even put a special seal over the entrance. Soldiers stood in front of the tomb to guard it day and night."

Do: Put the rolls in the oven and set your timer for 10-12 minutes. Let the rolls bake until they are golden brown.

Say: "Jesus was dead in the tomb for three days." While waiting for the rolls to bake, talk about what Jesus' friends might have been feeling or why God let such a horrible thing happen to Jesus.

Do: When the rolls are done baking, take them out of the oven and let them cool for 15-20 minutes (this is hard!). The marshmallow may have exploded out of the crescent rolls, but that's to be expected. After the rolls have cooled...

Say: "Three days after Jesus died, an angel of the Lord appeared to one of Jesus' friends. He told her that Jesus was alive! Jesus' friends decided to look in the tomb where they had put Jesus' body, but when they did, it was empty! Jesus had risen! And still today, Jesus is ALIVE. Today he lives in heaven with God.

Do: Cut open one of the rolls. The marshmallow has melted, so the "tomb" is now empty.

Do: Eat your yummy rolls!

Say: "These rolls are sweet, just like the love of God. God made you and He loves you very much. And if you choose to love and follow God, you will be able to spend forever and ever in heaven with Him. The Bible tells us that Jesus is our Great Rescuer and that the only way to Heaven is through loving and believing in Jesus. We celebrate Easter because Jesus died and rose again so that we could be saved.

