

BANANA NEWS



GO DEEPER

BOTTOM LINE

MEMORY VERSE

JESUS IS ALIVE

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." John 14:6 (NLT)

DAILY DEVOTIONS

DAY 1: JESUS IS ALIVE

READ - Luke 24:1-12, 2 Timothy 1:10

This week we are celebrating the fact that Jesus came back to life after dying for us! So yes, Jesus did die to save us from the punishment of our sins. But it's important to remember that He did not stay dead. Jesus came back to life! Why though? Because of His extremely big and unlimited love for us. By coming back to life He defeated sin and made a way for us to be forgiven and have a relationship with God! **Remember: Jesus is Alive!**

DAY 2: HURRY!

READ - Matthew 28:1-8

What did the women do after the angel told them Jesus had risen? Did they sit down and talk? Did they finish what they were doing? Did they go for a walk? No! They HURRIED. Hurried where? To tell others about what they had seen and what they had heard. They were so excited that they hurried to share the good news that Jesus is alive! Are you excited that Jesus is alive? Who can you tell the good news to today? **Remember: Jesus is Alive!**

DAY 3: DOUBTING THOMAS

READ - John 20:24-29

Have you ever struggled with believing Jesus is who He says He is? Thomas did! He even got to walk and talk with Jesus and he still struggled to believe that Jesus is God and had power over death. But, Jesus showed Himself to Thomas. Thomas believed after seeing Jesus again. Jesus said, "blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." You may struggle with doubt sometimes, but remember the truth – Jesus is alive! **Remember: Jesus is Alive!**

DAY 4: JESUS WENT TO HEAVEN

READ - Matthew 28:16-20, John 14:1-7

After Jesus came back to life, He never died again. Instead, He went back to Heaven. Just before He went back to Heaven, He gave instructions to His disciples to share with everyone the good news that He is alive. Our God is the One True God. He is not dead! He is alive! He is all powerful! And He is preparing a place in Heaven for everyone who chooses to believe in and follow Him! There is no better news than that! **Remember: Jesus is Alive!**

DAY 5: DEATH WAS ARRESTED

READ - Revelation 1:5-6, 18

When Jesus died and came back to life, He arrested, or He stopped, the power that death has to keep us separated from God forever. And all we need to do is ask forgiveness for our sins and choose to follow Jesus, and then one day we will get to be in Heaven worshiping the Creator of the universe for ever and ever! And that's the best reason to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus! **Remember: Jesus is Alive!**

Materials: crescent rolls, marshmallows, water/butter, cinnamon, sugar, Bible

Preheat your oven to the temperature listed on your can of crescent rolls. While the oven is heating, read John chapter 19 in the Bible with your family. After you finish reading, open your can of crescent rolls, unroll them, and separate each of the little triangles.

Next, grab your marshmallows. The marshmallow represents Jesus' body. The color of the marshmallows help us remember that Jesus is pure and perfect because He never sinned or did anything wrong. Take the marshmallow, and dip it in some water or melted butter. The water or butter represents the oils they put on Jesus as they were getting Him ready for burial.

Then roll your wet marshmallow in a mixture of sugar and cinnamon, which represents the spices that were put on Jesus before He was buried in the tomb.

Place the coated marshmallow on one of the crescent roll triangles and carefully roll it up. The crescent roll represents the tomb where Jesus' body was placed. The guards made sure the tomb was sealed up tight so nobody would take Jesus away! So do your best to make sure all the cracks are sealed. Once sealed, place it on a baking sheet.

Repeat this process until all of your crescent rolls are on the baking sheet. Then have an adult carefully place them in the oven and set a timer for however long is printed on the crescent roll can.

While you wait for the rolls to finish baking, read John 20 verses 1-18 from the Bible with your family.

After the timer goes off, allow your rolls to cool. Once cool, break one in half. The marshmallow is gone! All that remains are the spices and the bread.

And that's how it was with Jesus. When He was resurrected, He came back to life and was no longer in the tomb. So every time you make and enjoy these delicious treats, remember what Jesus did for you!



Materials: paper cup, markers, foil, tape, 24" string

Color the paper cup grey, brown, and green like rock, dirt, and grass. Lay the foil flat and push one end of the string through the center of the foil leaving about 12" on both sides. Tape the string to the center of the foil and then wad the foil into a ball leaving the string extending out both sides.

Poke a small hole in the bottom of your paper cup. Then thread one end of the string through the hole. Now when the cup is on it's side, the stone can be moved by the string into the cup to close the cave. Pull the other end of the string to "roll the stone away!"

You can be even more creative and use a shoe box or other paper to make a background for your cave. Use your cave to share the amazing news that Jesus is ALIVE!