# 4 WAYS TO CELEBRATE EASTER WITH YOUR FAMILY

During the weeks leading up to Easter, find a way for your family to reflect on the Easter message of Jesus' death and resurrection.

# **Read The Easter Story**

#### Younger Kids (2-5 years)

These are great books to purchase and read with younger kids:

<u>The Easter Story</u>: Told through an engaging, easy-to-understand rhyme, the story begins with the Lord's Supper and progresses through Jesus' breakfast on the beach with the disciples.

The Beginner's Bible: Come Celebrate Easter Sticker and Activity Book: The Easter story comes to life through puzzles, activity pages, and stickers.

The Backward Easter Egg Hunt: Six-yearold Molly can't wait for Aunt Jenny's famous annual Easter egg hunt at Lantern Hill Farm. But something's different this year ... instead of hiding eggs filled with prizes, Aunt Jenny passes out empty Easter eggs!

<u>Are We Nearly There Yet?</u>: Come on a journey with Jesus' disciples as they wait for Jesus to show that He is King of everyone. <u>A Very Happy Easter</u>: This fresh retelling of the Easter story helps little ones understand the story and the emotions surrounding Holy Week.

#### Older Kids (6-12 years)

Use a devotional from YouVersion to read parts of the Easter story leading up to Easter.

<u>Superbook: He Is Risen!</u>: This five-day devotional walks alongside Jesus in His final moments and triumphant resurrection. During the week, we will learn about prayer, sacrifice, truth, and freedom.

<u>Children's Guide to Easter</u>: This plan shows Jesus' final days in Jerusalem with colorful illustrations to help the story come to life. Read it together with your child to help them understand how Jesus died to save us from our sins. This is a seven-day devotional.

#### A Bunny, Eggs & Jesus

The true meaning of Easter can sometimes be lost, but this plan helps kids learn about Jesus' death and resurrection in memorable ways. This is a six-day devotional.

## **Invite Someone To Church**

Use the Easter at Elevation invites to ask someone to come to church with you for an Easter experience. Think of a fun way to hand the Easter invites out. You could:

- Attach the invite to an Easter basket filled with yummy candies and treats.
- Mail the Easter invite and put Easter stickers on the envelope.
- Hide a few Easter eggs in the person's yard.

Attach the invite to one egg and put a treat in the other eggs. Put a note on the person's front "You've been EGGED! Have fun finding the Easter eggs hidden in your yard!"

# **Serve Together**

Model Jesus' example of love and sacrifice by loving and serving others. Visit <u>https://elevationchurch.org/</u> <u>outreach/</u> to find an event for your family to serve at.

#### **RESURRECTION ROLLS**

from https://joyfoodsunshine.com/resurrection-rolls/

Make this fun treat for your family to review the Easter story using stuffed Easter Eggs.

# **RESURRECTION ROLLS**

TOTAL TIME: 30 Minutes SERVINGS: 8

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 package of Pillsbury Crescent Rolls (8)
- 8 large marshmallows
- 2 TBS butter, melted
- 3 TBS sugar
- 1/2 TBS cinnamon

1. Preheat the oven to 375° F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.

- 2. Separate the 8 crescent rolls and lay them on a plate.
- 3. Melt 2 TBS butter in a small bowl.
- 4. Mix the sugar and cinnamon together in a small bowl.
- 5. Dip one marshmallow in butter, turning to coat it completely.
- 6. Roll the butter-dipped marshmallow in the cinnamon sugar mixture until coated.
- 7. Put the marshmallow inside a crescent roll and make sure to seal it completely! Do not leave any holes or openings. Set it on the prepared baking sheet.
- 8. Repeat with remaining marshmallows and rolls.
- 9. Bake in preheated oven for 9-12 minutes until golden brown.
  10. When they're cool enough to handle, let your child open one. The marshmallow is gone! Even though Jesus died, He didn't stay dead in the tomb He's alive!

#### **RESURRECTION EGGS**

Purchase a kit or make your own using the instructions below.

<u>Materials Needed:</u> black marker, 12 plastic eggs, 11 story objects (described below), an empty egg carton

#### Prepare The Eggs

- Use a marker to number your eggs from 1 to 12.
- Put each story object in the corresponding numbered egg:

#### Egg #1: A donkey

Jesus was celebrated when He entered Jerusalem. (Matthew 21:1-11)

#### Egg #2: A piece of bread

Jesus had one final meal with his disciples. (Matthew 26:17-19)

#### Egg #3: **Flower** Jesus prays to His Father in the garden of Gethsemane. (Matthew 26:36-39)

Egg #4: **3 silver coins** *Judas betrays Jesus. (Matthew 27:3)* 

Egg #5: Mini-flashlight During the night, Jesus is arrested. (John 18:1-3, 12)

Egg #6: **Rope (whip)** Jesus is beaten. (Mark 15:15)

### Egg #7: Thorns

Jesus is crowned king of the Jews. (John 19:2-4 and Mark 15:17)

Egg #8: **A cross** Jesus carries His cross to the site of the crucifixion. (John 19:17)

Egg #9: **Nail** Jesus is nailed to the cross. (John 19:18,37)

Egg #9: **Sponge** *They give Jesus a sponge soaked in vinegar to drink. (John 19:28-30)* 

#### Egg #10: White cloth

Jesus' body is taken to the tomb and prepared for burial. (Matthew 27:58-60 and John 19:38-42)

Egg #11: **A stone** Jesus' tomb is covered with a stone. (Matthew 27:59-60)

Egg #12: **(Egg should be empty)** The tomb was empty. He has risen! (Matthew 28:6)

#### Instructions:

- Place the eggs in the empty egg carton.
- Starting with the egg marked "1," open up one egg each day in the 12 days leading up to Easter.Read the verse associated with each object to talk about a part of the Easter story.