

# THE GINGERBREAD MAN GOSPEL

## Once Upon a Time...



You probably know the story The Gingerbread Man, "Once upon a time an old man and an old woman decided to make some gingerbread..." Well, this story is a little different... One day, many years ago, God decided to make man. He didn't use an oven or dough. He made man out of the dust. He made man in His own image, and God made man to be friends with Him.

Your blank gingerbread man represents that God made man (Gen. 1:27)

## Run, Run as Fast as You Can!

When the gingerbread man finished baking he ran away saying, "Run, run as fast as you can. You can't catch me I'm the gingerbread man." We are actually not much different than the gingerbread man. We ran away too. We ran away from God. Instead of running to God, we strayed away to leave God's paths and follow our own

Draw straight pencil marks on both legs to show that we ran away (Is 53:6a)

## You Don't Have to Run From Me, I Am Your Friend!

Now the gingerbread man ran and ran until he got to the river, and he met a fox. This fox said, "Why, Gingerbread Man, you don't have to run from me. I am your friend. I want to help." But, if you remember the story, the fox actually tricked the gingerbread man. Our enemy isn't the fox; it is Satan. In the Bible, we see Satan came in the form of a snake, and he tricked Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve fell for it. They sinned by disobeying God. We, too, disobey God. We are broken and have sin in us.

Draw a straight line in pencil on both arms as if the limbs broke to show that we are broken (Romans 3:23)

## The Fox Threw Back His Head and...

This fairytale didn't end happily ever after for the gingerbread man. He fell for the sly fox's tricks over and over until finally "... the fox threw back his head and snapped up the gingerbread man in one bite!" Like the gingerbread man, we deserve death for our sin, but luckily that's not how our story ends. Instead, God gave us a magnificent gift...

Draw a bow (i.e. bowtie or hair bow) on your gingerbread man to represent that God gave us a gift (Romans 6:23)

## Happily Every After?

There was no hope for the gingerbread man. He was gone, but imagine the old man or the old woman in The Gingerbread Man going up to the fox and saying, "No Mr. Fox, eat me instead." That is exactly what Jesus did for us. Jesus lived a perfect life on Earth and died on the cross for our sins because He loves us that much!

Draw a smiley face on your gingerbread man to show the hope and joy that Jesus brings (Romans 5:8)

## The End.

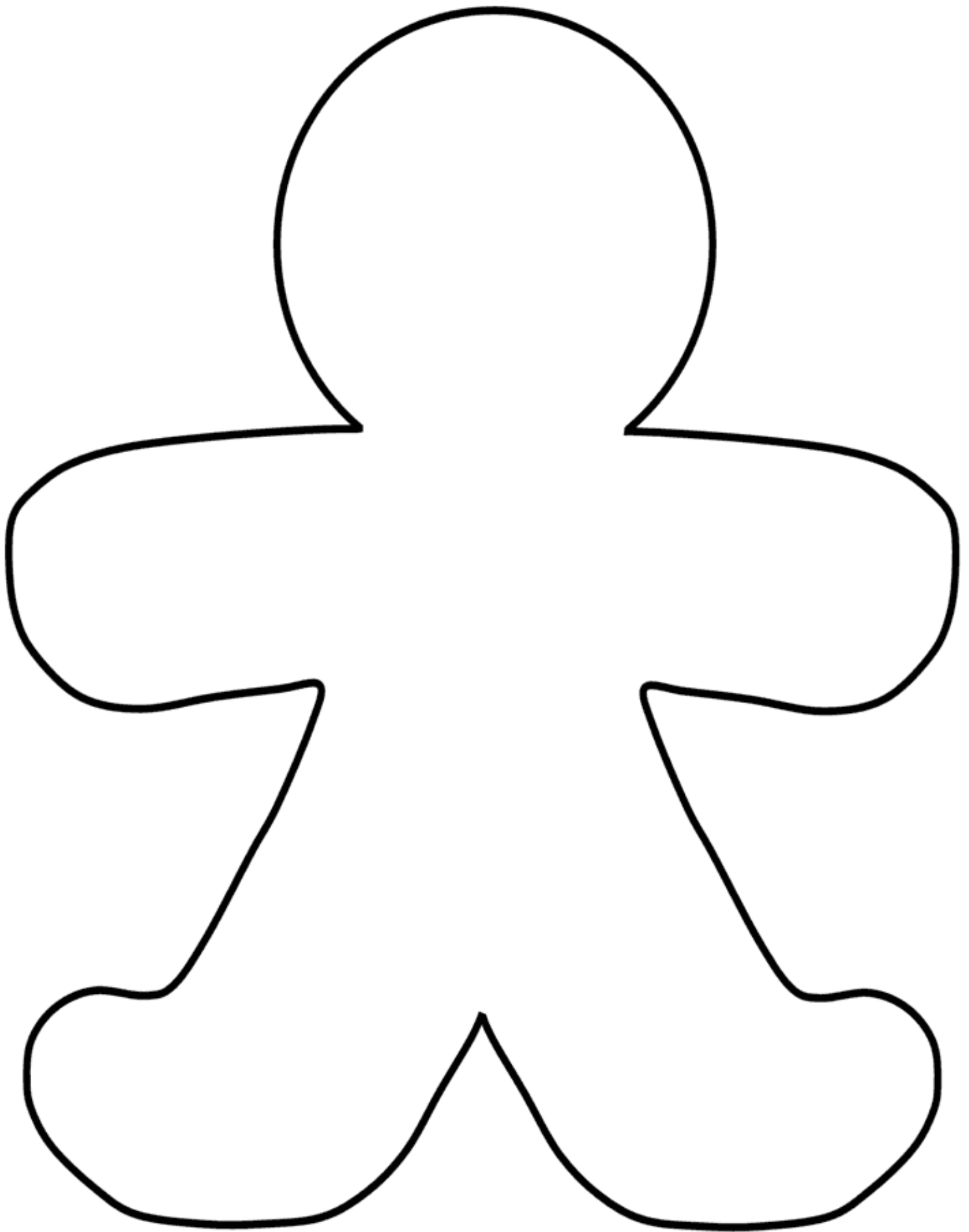
If the old man or the old woman sacrificed themselves and got eaten by the fox the story would be over right there, but Jesus isn't a normal human. Jesus is God. After dying on the cross, He rose 3 days later!

Draw 3 buttons on your gingerbread man to represent Jesus rising 3 days later (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

## But wait! The Story's Not Over Yet!

This is the craziest tale of all time, and it's a true one! This all really happened! But there's still a problem. Your gingerbread man is still broken. He's got no arms or legs. That is because we must accept Jesus into our lives in order to be cleansed of our sin and made whole again. Jesus loves us and wants to be our friend. He wants us to stop running away and turn to Him instead!

Using a marker, go ahead and draw icing squiggles to represent Jesus putting us back together again (Acts 3:19)



Example 1



Example 2

