



Resurrection Cookies

Ingredients & Items Needed

- Bible
- 1 cup of pecans or almonds
- Zip-top bags
- Wooden spoon
- Mixing Bowl
- 1 tsp of apple cider vinegar (or white vinegar)
- 3 egg whites
- 1 pinch of sea salt (or salt)
- 1 cup cane sugar (or sugar)
- Hand or stand mixer
- Wax paper
- Cookie sheet
- Tape

Instructions:

1. **Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Do this step now, not later.**

2. Hand each child a plastic baggie with nuts inside. Let your children use the wooden spoons to beat the nuts into tiny pieces and read the following passage to help them understand how Jesus was beaten by the soldiers after he was arrested.

John 19:1-3 – “Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe and went up to him again and again, saying, “Hail, king of the Jews!” And they struck him in the face.”

3. Have each child sniff the apple cider vinegar, and even taste it. Pour one teaspoon into the bowl and explain that Jesus was given vinegar to drink when he was thirsty on the cross.

John 19:28-30 – “Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”

4. Take the 3 eggs and teach your kids how to separate the egg whites or do this before inviting your children to participate in the baking adventure. Explain that egg represent life and Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice by giving His life for our lives. Then, add the egg whites to the vinegar.

John 10:10-11 – “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

5. Add a pinch of salt to the bowl, then have each child lick a little salt that you put into their hands. Explain that the salt represents two things: 1. Salty tears. Jesus’ followers cried many tears when he died on the cross. 2. They also represent the bitterness of our own sin.

Luke 23:27 – 27 – “A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.”

6. Allow each child to taste a little bit of sugar without telling them what it is and ask them what it tastes like. Share that the sweetest part of this story is that Jesus loved us so much that he was willing to die on the cross to take away our sins. He wants to be our friend, to know him and to live with him in heaven forever. Then add one cup of this sweet sugar to the mixture.

Psalm 34:8 – 8 – “Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.”

John 3:16 – 16 – “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

7. This next part will take a little patience, just like the followers of Jesus were trying to wait and figure out what to do after Jesus died on the cross.

Take a good look at the ingredients currently in the bowl. What color is it? It's a dirty color. This dirty color represents our sins.

As you mix the ingredients on high with your mixer for 11-15 minutes until stiff peaks form, ask your kids what is happening to the color? It changes to white! This represents how those who obey Jesus will have their dirty sins washed away and will be made pure in God's eyes.

Isaiah 1:18 – “Come now, let us reason together,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”

John 3:1-3 – “Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.” In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”

As we continue to mix the mixture, I talk about one of my favorite passages, Acts 17: 26-27. We each have a special purpose on this Earth. Just like Jesus had a special purpose. And guess what? It's actually the same purpose! **To love God and love others!**

Acts 17:26-27 – “From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.”

8. Empty the nuts in the bowl and then fold the mixture until the nuts are blended in well.

9. Now it's time to place the cookie mixture onto the cookie sheet. As you drop a teaspoon of the mixture onto the wax paper-covered cookie sheet, share that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was buried.

10. Place the cookie sheet into the oven. Close the door. Then, **TURN OFF the OVEN.**

11. Have each child put a piece of tap over the oven door to seal it up. Remind them that the tomb was sealed and soldiers were placed in front of it to guard it.

Matthew 27:65-66 – “Take a guard,” Pilate answered. “Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how.” So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.”

12. Now, off to bed! Yes, it will be sad to have to leave the cookies overnight. When the tomb was sealed with Jesus’ dead body inside, Jesus followers went away feeling horribly sad and hopeless.

John 16:20 – “I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy.”

13. On Resurrection morning, open the oven and have each person examine a cookie! What does it look like? It’s cracked on the outside & hollow on the inside. **It’s empty just like the tomb!** Jesus’ followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty because Jesus body had been inside and the tomb had been guarded!

Matthew 28:1-9 – “After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.” So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.”

(This recipe has been around for a while and we are not sure who to give credit to but found the recipe online a few years ago. Kristi later altered it a bit and blogged about it at <http://oklahomacity.citymomsblog.com/easter-traditions/> Check out their site for some other great Easter ideas too.)