

Resurrection Cookies

Adapted by Susan Barber from the Fabulously Frugal blog

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup pecans (or mini chocolate chips)
- 1 teaspoon vinegar
- 3 egg whites (use large eggs)
- pinch of salt
- 1 cup sugar

SUPPLIES:

- resealable bag
- wooden spoon
- tape
- Bible
- cookie sheet
- parchment paper
- spoons
- hand mixer
- bowl (glass or metal is always best for meringues but a plastic bowl will do in their absence)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees.
2. Place pecans (or mini chocolate chips) in bag and let the children beat them with the wooden spoon to break them into small pieces. Explain that after Jesus was arrested He was beaten by the Roman soldiers. Read John 19:1-3.
3. Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 teaspoon vinegar into mixing bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross he was given vinegar to drink. Read John 19:28-30.
4. Separate eggs, one at a time in a small bowl, and then add to your large mixing bowl. The eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave His life to give us life. Read John 10: 10-11.

5. Have each child pinch a *small* amount of salt in the bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers. Read Luke 23:27.
6. So far the ingredients are not very appetizing, are they? Now measure out 1 cup of sugar. Explain that the sweetness represents the sweetness of Jesus in our lives. The sweetest part of the resurrection story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to Him. Read Psalms 34:8 and John 3:16.
7. Beat the egg whites with a mixer, adding a spoonful of sugar at a time until all the sugar is mixed in. Beat the mixture on high speed for 12-15 minutes, until stiff peaks are formed. Explain that the color white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3.
8. *Gently* fold in broken nuts or mini chocolate morsels. Drop by spoonfuls onto a parchment-lined cookie sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. Read Matthew 27:57-60.
9. Put the cookies in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF. (If you have a gas oven leave on for 10-15 min, then turn off.) Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door closed. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. Read Matthew 27:65-66.
10. Explain to the kids they won't be able to eat the cookies tonight and ask if it makes them feel sad. Talk about how Jesus' followers were very sad when the tomb was sealed. Read John 16:20 & 22.
11. The next morning, before the kids come down, take the tape off the oven, leave the door to the oven cracked, and move the cookies from the cooking sheet to a serving plate. When the kids open the oven and see they aren't there, ask if they're surprised/worried about where the cookies went. Talk about how the women who went to Jesus' tomb were surprised and upset not to find his body there. But then Jesus appeared to Mary and she was amazed and filled with joy. Then present the plate of cookies and enjoy them together. Notice how they are hollow inside, like the tomb. Read Matthew 28:1-9.