

Dear LLC families,

This recipe was given to me by a dear cousin (who has 6 kids). It has become an annual Easter tradition in our house. I thought you might enjoy starting this tradition with your family, too. It is meant to be done the night before Easter morning. Cookies for breakfast!

EASTER STORY TOMB COOKIES

You will need:

1 c. whole pecans

1 tsp. vinegar

3 egg whites

A pinch of salt

1 c. sugar

Zipper baggie

Wooden spoon

Tape

Wax paper

Bible (I find it much easier if I tab and number the verses before we get started....especially if you have young children)

1. Preheat oven to 300.
2. Place pecans in zipper baggie and let children beat them with the wooden spoon to break into small pieces. **Explain that after Jesus was arrested, the Roman soldiers beat Him. *Read John 19:1-3.**
3. Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 tsp. 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. Add egg whites to vinegar. Eggs represent life. **Explain that Jesus gave His life to give us life. *Read John 10:10-11.**
5. Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it, put a couple pinches into the bowl. **Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers, and the bitterness of our own sin. *Read Luke 23:27.**

6. So far the ingredients are not very appetizing. Add 1c. sugar. **Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to Him. *Read Ps. 34.8 and John 3:16.**
7. Beat with a mixer 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. Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto a wax paper covered baking sheet. **Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. *Read Matt. 27:57-60.**
9. Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF!!! Give each child a piece of masking tape and "seal" the oven door. **Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. *Read John 16:20-22.**
10. GO TO BED!! **Explain that they may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed. *Read John 16:20-22**
11. On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie! Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow!! **On the first Easter, Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty!!**
12. **Go to church and celebrate!!! ☺**

OR.....ENJOY THE VIRTUAL SERVICE TOGETHER!!!