

Empty Tomb Cookies

Yield: 1-2 Dozen Cookies

Activity Time: 30 minutes (mixing), 8 hours overnight, 20 minutes (finishing)

Note: The first part of this interactive Easter experience takes place the evening before Easter and the activity is completed and the cookies are ready to eat Easter morning.

INGREDIENTS

1 cup whole pecans
1 teaspoon vinegar
3 egg whites
1 pinch salt
1 cup sugar

EQUIPMENT

- Gallon-size Zip Plastic Bag
- Mixing Bowl
- Wooden Spoon/Cooking Mallet
- Masking Tape
- Cookie Sheet
- Measuring Cups and Spoons
- Parchment/Wax Paper
- Scriptures

1

Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Do this BEFORE beginning this activity.

2

Read John 19:1-3. Jesus was beaten for our sins. Place the nuts in the plastic bag and crush them with the mallet or spoon. The nuts should be in small pieces, but not pulverized.

3

Read John 19:28-30. Jesus drank something sour-tasting, like vinegar. Smell and taste the vinegar. Place vinegar in bowl. Christ drank the bitter cup so we could be resurrected.

4

Read John 10:10-11. The egg whites symbolize life. Christ gave his life for us. Add egg whites to the bowl.

5

Read Mark 14:32-42 and Luke 23:27. The salt represents the the sweat and tears Christ shed in the Garden of Gethsemane. It also symbolizes the tears of Christ's followers and those we shed when we sin. Taste a few grains. Add the salt to the bowl. Point out that none of the ingredients taste very good at this point.

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6

Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16. How sweet it is for us that Christ died for every one of us! The sugar represents the sweet taste of Christ's gift to us of resurrection and eternal life. Add the sugar to the bowl.

7

While reading from Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3, use the mixer and beat together the ingredients in the bowl. It will take about 12-15 minutes of mixing for the mixture to get fluffy and very stiff. The white color of the whipped batter represents purity and being washed clean from sin through the Atonement of Christ. Turn off the mixer and fold in the crushed nuts.

8

Read Matthew 27:57-60. Drop cookie mixture by tablespoonfuls onto cookie sheet covered with parchment or wax paper. The mound shape represents the tomb where Christ's body was laid.

9

Read Matthew 27:65-66. Place cookies in oven and TURN IT OFF. Don't forget this step! The oven represents the garden tomb. "Seal" the tomb by placing masking tape on the oven door to keep it shut.

10

Read John 16:20, 22. Christ's followers were sad when his tomb was sealed, just as we might be sad we can't eat these cookies tonight. LEAVE THE COOKIES IN THE TURNED-OFF OVEN AND WAIT OVERNIGHT for the miracle to develop.

11

NEXT MORNING: Read Matthew 28:1-9. Christ is risen! Remove tape from the oven door and remove the cookies. Break one open to see that they are hollow inside and empty just like Jesus' tomb.

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