

## Easter Resources for Families



Just because we can't be together, doesn't mean we can't share some Easter fun!

**Get your chick fix with Carolyn!**



## Easter Crafts with Carolyn...



## And More Easter Crafts with Carolyn



## Empty Tomb Cookie Recipe

This is a recipe to start on Saturday night, and then finish on Easter Sunday morning (gluten free, dairy free, nut free).

**Serves:** 12

**Preparation time:** 15-30 mins

**Waiting time:** overnight (oven will not be on at this time)

Ingredients:

1 cup chocolate chips

1 tsp vinegar

3 egg whites

Pinch of salt

1 cup sugar

Bible

Tape

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 300 degrees.

**Activity:** Put chocolate chips in a Ziploc bag and let children beat them with a wooden spoon.

**Discussion:** After Jesus was arrested, He was beaten by the Roman soldiers.

**Read:** *John 19:1-3 Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him whipped. The soldiers twisted thorns together to make a crown. They put it on Jesus' head. Then they put a purple robe on Him. They went up to him again and again. They kept saying, "We honour you, king of the Jews!" And they slapped him in the face.*

**Activity:** Let children smell vinegar. Add a teaspoon of vinegar to a mixing bowl.

**Discussion:** When Jesus was thirsty on the cross, he was given vinegar to drink.

**Read:** *John 19:28-30 Later, Jesus knew that everything had now been finished. He said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there. They soaked a sponge in it and put it on the step of a hyssop plant. They lifted it up to Jesus' lips. After Jesus drank he said "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and died.*

**Activity:** Add egg whites to vinegar.

**Discussion:** Eggs represent life. Jesus gave His life to give us life.

**Read:** *John 10:10-11 "A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they may have life. I want them to have it in the fullest way possible. I am the Good Shepherd. The shepherd gives his life for the sheep."*

**Activity:** Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl with the egg and vinegar.

**Discussion:** This represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers, and the bitterness of our own sins.

**Read:** *Luke 23:27 A large number of people followed Jesus. Some were women whose hearts were filled with sorrow. They cried loudly because of him*

**Activity:** Add one cup of sugar.

**Discussion:** The sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to Him.

**Read:** *Psalms 34:8 Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the person who goes to him for safety.*

*And John 3:16-17 God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life. God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world. He sent his Son to save the world through him.*

**Activity:** Beat with a mixer on high speed for 12-15 minutes or until stiff peaks are formed.

**Discussion:** The colour white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus.

**Read:** *Isaiah 1:18 "Even though your sins are bright red, they will be as white as snow. Even though they are deep red, they will be white like wool."*

**Activity:** Fold in broken chocolate chips. Line cookie sheet with waxed paper. Drop mixture by spoonfuls onto waxed or parchment paper.

**Discussion:** Each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid.

**Read:** *Matthew 27:57-60 As evening approached, a rich man came from the town of Arimathea. His name was Joseph. He had become a follower of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth. He placed it in his own new tomb that he had*

*cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb. Then he went away.*

**Activity:** Place the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and **turn the oven OFF**. Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door.

**Discussion:** Jesus' tomb was sealed.

**Read:** *Matthew 27:65-66 "Take some guards with you," Pilate answered. "Go. Make the tomb as secure as you can." So they went and made the tomb secure. They put a royal seal on the stone and placed some guards on duty.*

**Activity:** GO TO BED.

**Discussion:** You may feel sad that we had to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were sad when the tomb was sealed.

**Read:** *John 16:22 "That's the way it is with you. Now it's your time to be sad. But I will see you again. Then you will be full of joy. And no one will take away your joy."*

**Activity:** On Easter morning, open the oven and remove the cookies. Take a bite. Notice...the inside of the cookies are hollow!

**Discussion:** On the first Easter Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty.

**Read:** *Matthew 28:1-9 The Sabbath day was now over. It was dawn on the first day of the week. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a powerful earthquake. An angel of the Lord came down from heaven. The angel went to the tomb. He rolled back the stone and sat on it. His body shone like lightning. His clothes were as white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Don't be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here! He has risen, just as he said he would! Come and see the place where he was lying. Go quickly! Tell his disciples, 'He has risen from the dead. He 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. They were afraid, but they were filled with joy. They ran to tell the disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings!" he said. They came to him, took hold of his feet and worshiped him.*