Chocolate Caramel Popcorn Recipe

- 12 cups of popped popcorn
- 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons corn syrup
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 pound bittersweet chocolate
- 1. Prepare the popcorn and set it aside in a large bowl that you have sprayed with cooking spray.
- 2. In a heavy saucepan combine sugar, corn syrup and water over medium heat and cook until light golden brown.
- 3. Pour caramel mixture over popcorn and stir well to coat. A wooden spoon works well for this. Some people like to spread the caramel popcorn on a waxed paper covered tray to cool. When cool, break up any clumps.
- 4. Melt the chocolate over a double boiler, stirring until smooth. You can also melt the chocolate in a microwave, stirring every 30 seconds. Do no overheat!
- 5. Drizzle the chocolate over the caramel corn gradually and stir it through. It will cool best on wax paper.
- 6. Store in an airtight container, or place in cute little decorative bags to give as gifts. You can get lovely but inexpensive cello bags and ties at <u>Candyland Crafts</u> along with a whole range of candy making supplies.

Variations: You can add nuts or try using white chocolate or milk chocolate to create your own favorite version of chocolate covered caramel popcorn.

Warning: The caramel mixture gets very hot. Be careful not to burn yourself. I like to butter my hands before working with it, but keep some cold water handy just in case.

Timesaving Tip: It is nice to keep some caramel on hand for candy making. It cuts the cooking time down and is really quite yummy. You can buy a bag of scrumptious caramel ready to go at <u>Candyland Crafts</u>. You'll love it as you only have to melt it slightly and pour it on. :) They carry two brands currently, Merckens Caramel which is firm, and Peter's Caramel that is a softer caramel.

Chocolate Caramel Popcorn... ... you've got to love it!