Items Needed

- Sheet cake
- Basic recipe for a cake (See the recipe on any cake box.)
- 2 large pieces of construction paper
- Miscellaneous cooking ingredients that do not combine—such as canned corn, bananas, vinegar, cottage cheese, etc.
- 1 large mixing bowl
- Plastic tablecloth
- Tape

Objective

E-LIFE Kids will learn about the E-LIFE commitment “Show” by demonstrating the need to help others in need.

Instructions

Before the meeting, find an actual cake recipe and write the ingredients on a large piece of construction paper. At the top of the page write “CAKE RECIPE.” On the second piece of construction paper, also write at the top “CAKE RECIPE.” On that sheet fabricate a cake recipe—using ingredients such as canned corn, bananas, vinegar, cottage cheese, etc. In addition, either purchase or bake a sheet cake large enough to serve all the kids in your group. The sheet cake should not be iced at this time.

During setup just prior to the group meeting, place the fabricated ingredients to the left side on a 6-foot table and tape the fabricated recipe marked “CAKE RECIPE” on the front edge of the table so that it appears in front of the ingredients. Place beside those ingredients one large mixing bowl. On the opposite side of the table, place the actual ingredients of a cake, and post the construction paper marked “CAKE RECIPE” on the front edge of the table in front of those ingredients. Prior to the meeting, open all the cans or containers. Cover the entire table with a plastic tablecloth, or whatever you choose, so the kids cannot see the items beforehand. Place the finished sheet cake that is ready to eat somewhere out of sight.
Spiritual Application

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then...know how to give good gifts...how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.” (Matthew 7:7-11, emphasis added)

Read the above passage, then share this High Octane object lesson.

Say: Hey, E-LIFE Kids, how many of you like cake? (Wait for response. Have some helpers place the covered table in front of the group where you stand.) I love cake. In fact, we’re going to make a cake. I have two sets of recipes, one to my left and one to my right. Let’s start with this recipe.

(Grab the mixing bowl and ingredients for the fabricated recipe and begin pouring them into the bowl.)

What do you think should go in the recipe? (Wait for response.) How about we add some… (finish by giving the names of the miscellaneous items you’ve gathered for the fabricated recipe).

Don’t you think this would be a delicious cake? (Wait for response.) How about we add some… (finish by giving the names of the miscellaneous items you’ve gathered for the fabricated recipe).

Of course not! You would give nothing but the best to your friend or those you’re trying to share Jesus with. An E-LIFE Kid is one who shows the love of Christ to others—especially those who are in need. (Now retrieve the finished sheet cake.) Showing Christ’s love to your friends and those in need is kind of like giving others not the yucky stuff like the ingredients in this bowl (point to the bowl in which you’ve added the fabricated cake ingredients) but the good stuff, like this cake.

You see, when we help those in need, we must do it as if Jesus were right there with us. We need to show those in need that we’re made up with all the right ingredients—the things of God that make us the Christians we should be. By doing that, we can offer others something they will want. Could you imagine trying to help someone by being angry at him, by not caring for him, by saying harsh things to him? (Wait for response.) No way! It would be like trying to give someone in need a piece of yucky cake made from these ingredients. (Point again to the mixing bowl.) We each must do our best to help needy kids in our schools and our communities.

If time permits, conclude by giving each child a piece of cake.