

# Plugged In

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as  
**STEP 1**



### Lesson 9

#### Focus:

Jesus wants us to stay connected to Him.

### Lesson 9

#### Bible Basis:

John 15:1-8;  
Galatians 5:22-23

### Lesson 9

#### Memory Verse:

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.”  
—John 15:5

In order to introduce the lesson topic, students will discuss their life connections and watch an amusing video about someone searching for a way to stay plugged in.

#### Materials:

- Internet access

Everyone in this room has different skills, different experiences, and different needs, but we all have one thing in common: we need connections. But what are connections? Let’s ask some questions to start thinking about what connections might represent.

- **What are some ways we stay connected to other people?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Students may mention church, school, clubs, extra-curricular activities, etc. If no one mentions phones or social media, be sure to point those out to your preteens.)
- **List some of the ways you use devices to stay connected.** (Possible answers might include: communicating with friends, getting information, working on projects.)
- **How much time do you spend per day using computers or mobile devices? How do you feel if they run out of battery or if you can’t use them?** (Answers will vary but might include: isolated, disconnected, in danger if you needed to call 911 but had no way to connect.)

Many of us have come to depend heavily on mobile devices in order to stay connected to the rest of the world. Losing that access can be really upsetting! If you’ve ever needed to charge your phone or other device because you were low on battery, you know how desperate a feeling it can be. That’s what the person in this video was feeling...let’s see what happens.

Play the short video for the students:

SCAMMED BY FAKE POWER SOCKETS PRANK 🙄

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/TGuimWw23e4>

- **How do you think the person being pranked felt when they realized they wouldn’t be able to charge their phones?** (Answers will vary.)

**Mobile devices are one form of connection, but we need many connections in order to be successful. No one can do connection all on their own. Connections can involve other people, like family or friends, or they can involve access to information or assistance or anything else we might need.**

**All connections need maintenance. If you let your phone run out of battery, it won't be of any more use to you than a brick. If you ignore your family and friends, the connection breaks down. But there's one other connection that's extremely important, and how we maintain that connection is vital. Let's find out more.**

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 9 / January 29, 2023

# Plugged In

for use as  
STEP 4 

## Lesson 9

### Focus:

Jesus wants us to stay connected to Him.

## Lesson 9

### Bible Basis:

John 15:1-8;  
Galatians 5:22-23

## Lesson 9

### Memory Verse:

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.” —

### Materials:

- Internet access
- Outlet sticker template printed on self-adhesive sheet (1 per student; 11 stickers per template found on the last page of this PDF)
- Scissors
- Black permanent marker

If your class is meeting online, email the template for families to print ahead of time. Invite students to bring printouts, markers, and scissors with them to class.

Before class print out enough outlet sticker pages on self-adhesive sheets so that each student has a sticker (there are 11 stickers per template found on the last page of this PDF). Cut apart the stickers; you can trim them closely or let the students do the trimming if time isn't an issue.

As students are finishing their activities from the last step, direct their attention back to the lesson focus. **Staying connected to Jesus is how we grow in our walk with God and stay focused on what He wants from us. God wants our lives to show others that we are “plugged in” to Jesus.**

**For the next few minutes, let's brainstorm ways we can stay connected to Jesus.** Allow students to work in groups of two or three to come up with as many ways to connect with Jesus as they can think of. (If your class is meeting online, you can use the breakout room feature of your video chat software.)

Optional: If you feel comfortable, you can play this song in the background as your students brainstorm.

Length of video: [4:31]

Stronger – Hillsong

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IfnrYav-QTc>

Once the students have completed their brainstorming, ask for a representative of each group to share anything they came up with. To continually narrow the focus, ask the group reps to list only things that haven't already been mentioned.

Hand out an outlet sticker to each of your preteens along with a fine-tipped permanent marker and scissors to share if the stickers need to be trimmed (or invite students to have those items ready at home). Have your students write “Plugged in to Jesus” on the outlet. Encourage them to put the sticker somewhere it will catch their attention and remind them to be intentional about staying plugged in to Jesus this week.

**As you go into your week, try to use the ways we came up with and other ways the Lord brings to mind to help you stay connected to Jesus!**

Close in prayer.

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