

Building Brethren

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 9**Focus:**

Jesus cares about my needs.

Lesson 9**Bible Basis:**

Mark 1:29-31,35-38;
Luke 19:1-10

Lesson 9**Memory Verse:**

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory.
—Philippians 4:19

In order to introduce the lesson topic, students will watch a video about a spacecraft landing on Mars and talk about the idea of fulfilling needs.

Materials:

- Internet access

Who here has ever thought about going to another planet? Right now, scientists are still working on the technology needed to send people to other worlds, but we still learn a lot about other planets because of robotic probes and rovers we send. You might have seen pictures taken recently on the surface of Mars or other places.

- **If you could send a robot to check out another part of our solar system, where would you send it? What interests you about that part in particular?** (Answers will vary.)

Let's imagine, for a moment, that our class was put in charge of sending a robotic probe to land on another planet. Let's try to think of all the things our robot would need in order to explore.

- **How would our spacecraft get to the other planet? How would we communicate with it?** (A robotic probe would need any number of the following: a radio, a camera, a heat shield, a parachute, rocket thrusters, batteries, solar panels, or more.)

In recent years, scientists have sent many robotic probes to explore the planet Mars. Getting the probes to Mars was no small feat, but these probes have been part of an even bigger mission: getting people to the planet.

Scientists are currently exploring what factors would be necessary for humans to survive on this planet. To get a better idea of all the factors they're considering in their research, let's watch the following video about the technologies NASA is designing to help humans survive on Mars.

Play the following video for your students [2:03]:

6 NASA Technologies to Get Humans to Mars

<https://www.nasa.gov/humans-in-space/humans-to-mars/>

➤ **Even with all these technologies designed to help people live on Mars, what other things would people need in order to happily live there?** (Possible answers might include: consistent food sources, water, homes, community, a sense of purpose, etc.)

It's a lot of fun to think of what people might need if they were to live on another planet. But today we're going to talk about Someone who came to this planet, to give *us* what *we* need. Let's learn more.

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

Lesson 9 / January 26, 2025

Building Brethren

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 9**Focus:**

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Luke 19:1-10

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Materials:

- Internet access
- Information on charitable opportunities through the church, or on local charities your church family supports
- Whiteboard and marker (or screenshared document)
- Paper
- Pens/pencils, markers, art supplies

Before the class, check with your church office or benevolence committee to find out about charitable volunteer options through the church or with local charities that your church family supports (i.e., local shelter or soup kitchen, etc.). If you are unable to come up with anything that your students can plug into for this activity, you might want to check out the following websites. They have resources, information, and search directories that can help you find charitable activities in your area that your class could participate in. Select two or three options to discuss with the class.

If your class is meeting online, invite students to supplies with them to class.

- <https://www.hhi.org/>
- <https://www.disasterrelieffort.org/>
- <https://greatnonprofits.org/near-me/>
- <https://www.volunteermatch.org/>

While the students are cleaning up from Step 3, call their attention back to the lesson focus. **Jesus met people where they were and found ways to give them what they really needed most.**

- **What needs did Jesus meet in today's lesson?** (Jesus gave healing to Simon's mother and he gave truth and understanding to Zacchaeus.)
- **Can you think of any other needs Jesus met, from other Bible stories you've read?** (Jesus fed the hungry, healed the sick, raised the dead, and restored sight to the blind.)
- **What kinds of needs do you think Jesus would meet if He came to our world today?** (Answers may vary; encourage discussion.)

Jesus continues to meet the needs of people through His Body here on planet Earth. You might be surprised to learn about the kinds of needs that still exist today in our own neighborhoods and community. Show your students some of the opportunities for meeting needs that you found with your church family and/or local charities.

After discussing the options your class could participate in, ask the class to vote on one. Formulate a plan with your students of what will be done and when you plan to do it (give enough time—possibly several weeks—to plan properly and get parents on board). Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home) and have your students each create a flyer that informs about the event. Use the whiteboard (or screenshared document) to list all important details for their flyers and approve each student's final copy making sure that all critical information is included. You might want to make a photocopy of a few of the flyers to place on key bulletin boards around your church building.

Send your students home with their flyers, encouraging them to get their family and friends excited about meeting needs in this way; have them post their flyers in a visible spot like the refrigerator door. Be sure to connect via email this week with all parents, encouraging, reminding, and explaining where needed. Follow through on this “meeting needs” activity and have your students share their thoughts when you meet next after its completion.

Close in prayer.

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