

Big Change Ahead!

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1 **Lesson 9****Focus:**

Jesus can change your life.

Lesson 9**Bible Basis:**

Luke 19:1-10

Lesson 9**Memory Verse:**

... not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.
—Philippians 2:4

Your students will talk about big changes as they explore how Jesus can transform lives.

Materials:

- Internet access

➤ **Name some big changes that have happened to you or that you've seen happen to others.** (Answers may include: changing schools; getting a brother or sister; moving; death in the family; etc.)

➤ **How did those different events “change life”—in other words, what were things like before the event, and how were they different after the event?** (Allow students to identify how a move to a different city, a death in the family, or the birth of a new sibling impacted them.)

Sometimes an event changes life in little ways. Let's take a look at how life changed one day for the man in the video.

Play the following clip for your students [1:44]:

'The world is our home': Once homeless, he now grows free food for his Fort Worth community

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dnKxzH83qqc>

➤ **How did Ahmad's life change because of his request for raised garden beds?** (Answers: He received a job he was passionate about, he transitioned out of homelessness, he helps feed others in his community, etc.)

➤ **Today, Ahmad's work and passion for growing fresh vegetables help many people in his community. What are some of the “ripple effects” of his kindness?** (Answers: People in the community have access to fresh food, Ahmad's gardening classes teach others how to grow their own food, seniors receive fresh produce, etc.)

God is using Ahmad to feed and help people in his community! It seems amazing that Ahmad requesting raised garden beds several years ago could have such a long-term impact, doesn't it? A life-changing event can alter the course of our lives forever. Today we're going to read a story about a man who had an event happen that changed the course of his life forever.

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

Big Change Ahead!

for use as
STEP 4 **Lesson 9****Focus:**

Jesus can change
your life.

Lesson 9**Bible Basis:**

Luke 19:1-10

Lesson 9**Memory Verse:**

... not looking to your own interests
but each of you to the interests of
the others.
—Philippians 2:4

Materials:

- Pens/pencils
- Markers
- Cardstock (1 sheet per student) or index card

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

Recognizing how Jesus changes our lives is so encouraging. Let's see if we can identify some of these changes in our own lives and those around us.

➤ **Sometimes meeting Jesus leads to immediate changes, and other times the changes seem more gradual. Have you ever known someone whose life was dramatically different after becoming a Christian?** (Answers will vary. You and other adult classroom leaders might want to share from their experience as well.)

➤ **What are some specific changes that can occur when we trust in Jesus?** (There are immediate changes that are not visible: we were lost and then are found, we have eternal life, we are part of God's family. Outwardly, we might treat our friends and family with more respect, patience, and kindness. We might change old habits such as media consumption. We might have more discipline to obey the biblical commandments.)

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). Have students write down this sentence: "I am becoming more _____, _____, and _____." If you are meeting online, consider writing the sentence on a doc and sharing your screen. You may want to share your own words (example: *patient*, *forgiving*, and *disciplined*). Teens will fill in the blanks with words that reflect their own personal growth. Allow your students to decorate their reminder as time allows. Challenge them to post this in their bedrooms to remind them that they are becoming more like Jesus every day.

When you look at your paper or card, what do you see? All of us are on a journey. Will you commit to encouraging your friends and family members when you see them demonstrating positive changes? Let's do this not only this week, but all the time. We need each other!

Be sure to circle back with students during the week either by texting or emailing. Encourage them as they are working through the change this week. You could also share with them if they ask you how you are doing with the challenge.

(We are not affiliated with and do not endorse any website or any other media listed on these pages. At the time of writing, we carefully review the referenced material and non-referenced web page content. However, due to the nature of the Internet, non-cited content on the website [including pop-ups, links, and ads] changes frequently and is beyond our control. Please review carefully before showing links in the classroom.)