

# Improving Your Serve

for use as

## STEP 1

Lesson 9

### Focus:

God gives us the ability to serve.

Lesson 9

### Bible Basis:

Luke 9:1-6, 10

Students will explore ways that they can follow the disciples' model in serving others.

#### Materials:

- a computer with Internet access (optional)




**M**issional is the new buzz word in evangelical circles. Most young people, however, have a two-dimensional understanding of missions and their ability to serve others as ministers of the Gospel. In today's lesson, students will study the disciples, "missionary experience," and they will consider their own role as missions-minded teenagers.

Knowing about people is not the same as knowing people. For example, we might see video and photographs of the people in Haiti, but we do not really understand who they are because they are separate from us. This is why it is important for young people to see themselves as personal ministers of the Gospel rather than merely suppliers of information, church builders, or writers of checks. Every ministry becomes more powerful when it is attached to relationships.

To begin today's lesson, let your students watch a short clip about one young man's decision to relocate to a "foreign land" (south Los Angeles) in order to build relationships with people in need. If your classroom does not have Internet access, preview the video and share the story with your class.

<http://www.urbana09.org/inviteothers.video.la.cfm>

After you are finished viewing the clip (or sharing the story), ask your students to answer the following questions.

-  What is different about the sort of ministry this young man is doing as opposed to other short term mission trips you have participated in or heard about?
-  Besides Bible study, how was this intern spending his time?
-  Do we have to be evangelizing or talking about Jesus to be effective ministers of the Gospel? Explain your answer.

Lesson 9  
**Memory Verse**

You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.

– Galatians 5:13

- ▶ **What role does relationship building have in becoming missionaries right at home or anywhere?**

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your *High School Teacher's Guide*; your Step 4 appears below.)

# Improving Your Serve

for use as  
**STEP 4** 

Lesson 9  
**Focus:**

God gives us the  
 ability to serve.

Lesson 9  
**Bible Basis:**

Luke 9:1-6, 10

**Students will think about where they can serve in their own communities.**

**Materials:**

index cards (Before you begin class, write the labels of target groups for different church outreach ministries on the index cards. For example, isolated and friendless kids at school, the homeless, the un-churched, the poor, the elderly, children, orphans, widows, chronically ill, etc.)

**W**hile some teenagers might feel the pull of cross-cultural missions more strongly than others, we all need to figure out how to serve right at home. The following activity is designed to help students think about where they can serve in their own communities.

Create groups of 2-3 students and have them sit clustered around the room. (Depending on the number of students you anticipate, make enough index cards so that every group has one to start with). Hand out one card per group and give them the following instructions.

Each group has been given an index card with a certain category of people listed on it. I will be asking you to respond to a series of statements based on these cards. Anyone in any group can raise their hand to participate. Before we begin, let's go around the room and have each group tell us what category is on their index card. Are you ready? (Let students share the different labels)

1) Raise your hand if you have shared a personal relationship with a member of that category. (Name a specific category and give students time to respond.)

2) Raise your hand if you can name an organization or advocacy group that minister to your category. (Ask students who raised their hands to share.)

3) Raise your hand if you would be uncomfortable ministering to people who fit in that category. (If your group is comfortable, have individual share their fears and concerns).

4) What are the stereotypes that we often associate with each of these groups? (Give students time to share). What happens to many of those stereotypes when we get to know someone personally?

Lesson 9  
**Memory Verse**

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– Galatians 5:13

Finish your session by asking students to think about who they can minister to in their community. Encourage them to reach out to some of the different groups of people listed on the index cards. Remind them that Jesus has called us to share the Gospel with everyone, not just those people who make us feel comfortable.

Conclude with prayer, asking your students to pray in their small groups for courage and discernment as they grow as ministers of Christ.

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