Solve $3x+5=9$

1) What's the opposite of adding 5? The opposite of adding 5 is subtracting 5.

   $3x+5-5=9-5$        Setup the subtraction of 5 from both sides

   $3x=4$            $5-5=0$ on the left side, and $9-5=4$ on the right side.

2) Now, what's the operation be between the 3 and the $x$ in $3x=4$?

   The 3 multiplies the $x$.

3) What's the opposite of mutiplication? Division, so divide both sides by 3.

   $\dfrac{3x}{3}=\dfrac{4}{3}$        Setup the division

   $x=\dfrac{4}{3}$        Complete the division.