Geometric sequence is defined as sequence $b_1, b_2, ..., b_n, ...$ where for some constant q: $\frac{b_n}{b_{n-1}} = q$ for every n>1.

We know that $b_n = b_1 * q^{n-1}$

Then $b_2 = b_1 * q = 3, b_5 = b_1 * q^4 = 81$

Next step is to find q:

$\frac{b_5}{b_2} = \frac{81}{3} = 27$

In other hand

$\frac{b_5}{b_2} = q^3$

So $q^3 = 27, q = 3$.

$b_2 = b_1 * q = 3$

$b_1 * 3 = 3$

$b_1 = 1$

Then $b_3 = b_1 * q^2 = 1 * 3^2 = 9$