



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 2: Joy of Adversity

Suggested Week of Use: September 12, 2021

Core Passage: Philippians 1:12-26

News Story Summary

Para athlete Amaris Vazquez competes on her school's track and field team as well as swim team. Vazquez was born with a foot deformity that led to an amputation when she was just a little girl. In addition to competing on her school team with able-bodied athletes, Vazquez also competes for DASA, the Disabled Athlete Sports Association. She is currently training for the 2024 Paralympics where her goal is to compete in either the triathlon, track and field events, or swimming.

For more about this story, search "Wentzville DASA Athlete Strives For Dream".

Focus Attention

To supplement the Rank idea under Focus Attention, after the group has ranked the words *joy*, *focus*, and *purpose*, share information about Amaris Vazquez. Lead the group to identify the *joy*, the *focus*, and the *purpose* that Amaris demonstrates as she strives to achieve her dream.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Challenge idea under Summarize and Challenge, remind the group of Amaris Vazquez. Point out that Amaris is training for the 2024 Paralympics which includes some training with other para-athletes in the Chula Vista US Paralympic and Olympic training center. Characterize the training as an open door for her. Complete the step, leading the group to respond to the first question set under Apply the Text.