

# 06 THE GOSPEL TRANSFORMS

KEY TEXT: **ACTS 16:11-24**

## CENTRAL truth

In this week's session, we will see the Lord work through the missionaries to open the heart of a woman named Lydia and also free a girl from her oppression by an evil spirit. Both women were on the receiving end of God's power and grace. **When we encounter the grace and power of God through the good news, our lives are changed.**

## key question

**How did the Lord work in the lives of both Lydia and the spirit-possessed girl?**

The Lord opened Lydia's heart to believe the good news that the missionaries preached. He also freed the young, enslaved girl from her spiritual oppression. Both women encountered the power and grace of God. As followers of Jesus, who have encountered the Lord's power and grace, we're enabled to live a transformed life.

## keep in mind

- Paul and Silas preached a gospel that in many ways opposed the Philippian way of life. Putting our faith in Jesus means surrendering to His lordship. Invite students to reflect on the areas of life that they struggle to surrender to Jesus's lordship. Share about your own struggle to do so in the past and how the Lord helped you.
- Paul and his companions encountered a young girl who was empowered by an evil spirit to predict the future. In our modern-day culture, some people still claim they have the ability to interact with the spiritual realm to predict the future or communicate with ghosts. Using this week's **Culture note** as your guide, help students to see that we should avoid these practices and trust in the Lord who holds our future.

## application

**How can we use our resources (such as our time, talents, and belongings) to bless others?**

## the win

**FOR THE STUDENT:** Students should understand that God's generosity toward us in Christ empowers us to be generous toward others.

**FOR THE LEADER:** Challenge students to be thoughtful about the ways they can demonstrate generosity in this stage of their lives. Whether it's through our time, our talents, or our treasures, we should seek to be conduits of God's grace.