

Session 6: Every Opportunity
Suggested Week of Use: October 6, 2024
Core Passage: Acts 16:11-15,29-40

## **News Story Summary**

In July, the U.S. Department of Labor announced new funding to support work skills training, employment services, educational opportunities, and mentoring for the next generation of the American workforce. The \$45 million will be available in communities most affected by poverty, crime, and violence and will target young adults between the ages of 15 and 24. According to the report, violence and poverty can thwart educational and employment opportunities within this demographic. The money will assist local organizations that provide training, jobs, and additional support that equips young people for the workforce, giving them opportunities to thrive.

For more about this story, search, "\$45 million to improve young adult employment"

## **Engage**

To supplement the Engage activities, play a game of "Let's Make a Deal." Put three items in three separate bags. The first bag should contain a "good" prize (Examples: Candy bar or a \$5 gift card), while the second bag should contain a less-appealing prize (Examples: Jar of baby food, roll of toilet paper). The third bag should contain a smaller good prize, such as an individual piece of candy. Allow a volunteer to choose between the first and second bags. Before they look in the bag they've chosen, show them what was inside the bag they *didn't* choose. Let them choose to keep their bag or trade it for the third bag.

Say: Our volunteer faced small opportunities—which bags to choose. But sometimes, opportunities have much bigger ramifications. Share about the Department of Labor's \$45 million in funding to give young people in violent and poverty-stricken communities greater opportunities for career success. Talk about how those funds could give them a chance to change their lives. Share that this session focuses on a different opportunity—one that affects eternity.

## Challenge

To supplement the Challenge activities, recall the \$45 million designated for improving employment opportunities. Say: For this program to work, young people need to take advantage of the opportunity. Likewise, you and I need to take advantage of the opportunities we have to share the gospel. Ask: What might keep people from sharing Jesus? (fear, lack of knowledge, no confidence, lack of desire, lack of training, and so forth) Write answers on the board. Instruct adults to review the list and to determine what hinders them from witnessing. Close in prayer, asking God to help adults take advantage of every opportunity to tell others about Jesus.