

**Guiding Question:** How did African Americans cope with and resist segregation in the South?

## Mission Reflection

*After completing Part 2, discuss the questions below:*

1. What is something that Verna experienced at the Chalmers' house that was surprising, interesting, or troubling to you? Explain your answer.
2. What do you learn about the Freedom Riders in Part 2? Why are people in Greenwood talking about them?
3. How does Verna feel about attending her first NAACP meeting? What's one reason she might be excited? What's one reason she might be nervous?
4. Describe a time in your life that you have felt both excited and nervous about something. Which emotion had a bigger impact on your experience?

**Time:** 15 minutes

## Instructions

Take 5 minutes to have students review their **Decision Tracker** and then use the Mission Reflection Questions to lead a 10-minute discussion.

By the end of Part 2, Verna has helped Aunt Mabel serve dinner at the Chalmers' house to a gathering of the Citizens' Council, attended her first NAACP meeting (where she met Medgar Evers), and gone roller skating at the St. Francis Center. During Part 2, the Freedom Riders are in the news, and Verna hears a variety of perspectives about them and President Kennedy. As Verna, students must make choices that balance the well-being of her and her family on the one hand and her desire to stand up to racial segregation on the other.

## Additional optional discussion questions:

- What choices did you make about how Verna feels the morning after the Chalmers' dinner?
- What happened at the rolling skating rink? If you tried to recruit people for the NAACP at the rink, how successful were you?
- What are your thoughts and feelings about Uncle Curtis? What do you think about his decision to fire Miss Annetta?