

Over the summer, I had the opportunity to volunteer at Camp Omega in Waterville, Minnesota. I served as a Youth Servant Leader (YSL). As a YSL, I had a week of leadership training and then got to put that training into practice by helping a counselor with a group of campers for a week. It was definitely a learning experience, as I discovered what it meant to really *lead*. I found that being a leader doesn't always mean being in charge, or telling people what to do. Sometimes it just means setting an example. As a YSL, I tried to set a good example for my campers, and as a result, they looked up to me. They considered me as a role model and asked for my advice. I got to lead Bible studies and devotions, and also encouraged my girls to become YSLs.

I am involved in multiple activities after school such as soccer, drama, piano and violin. I am a leader in soccer and drama by encouraging my peers to do their best. I can also be considered a leader academically. I was valedictorian of my 8th grade class in 2012.

This spring I will be involved in a musical put on by Home and Community Options. The profits of the play will be going to aid mentally disabled people. My class has been visiting and will continue to visit residents of the Sauer Memorial Home. These things both set a good example and show God's love, helping me to be a leader.

I could never be a leader without God's help, and in the future I will pray for the strength to lead people to him.