McKayla Roll

Personal Leadership Story

HSL 110 03

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I am from a small town called Mott, North Dakota. But, don’t worry, the saying there is: “Mott is the spot the God loves a lot” and he sure does. Being from a small town people are called to get more active and involved in the community. I played sports all year long in high school, from volleyball, to basketball, and then to track. As I grew older I became the role model or leader of each sport that I played. So, having to stay active in my school’s community helped teach me how to act with the other students in my school and how to help lead them.

I also was chosen my sophomore year in high school by my school’s administration board to become a “Peer Leader” in our school’s new anti-bullying program. My administration chose two students out of the high school who they saw to be the most influential people to the other students around them. My administration wanted a student who was hardworking, dedicated, respectful, and smart. They also wanted someone who was well liked, so that the other students would listen and hear what they had to say.

When my principal first asked me if I wanted to take on such a role, I declined. I thought it would be too much of a hassle, because I was already involved with so many other activities throughout my school. As weeks went by I found myself praying a lot to God asking him for the guidance and support through the decision I was making. About two weeks later I found myself waking up one morning and thinking that doing this leadership role is not about me, it’s about the other students in my school. Being this leadership role was about helping, guiding, and influencing both younger and older students that I surrounded myself with every day.

I had to take a week off of school to become educated about being a “Peer Leader”. I sat through classes and speakers, and learned the in’s and out’s about bullying and how to stand against it. After I was finally legalized a “Peer Leader”, I held monthly bullying meets for each class. I put together activities and games that our school would do school wide once each semester. I stepped into any situation that looked like bullying and stopped the situation before it got out of hand. I taught some other high school students to become what is called the “by-standers”. They had an important role in our school too. The “by-standers” stepped into any situation and helped the students who were being harmed.

Looking back now I realized that becoming the “Peer Leader” in my school was a leadership role that I loved doing. I realized that God has a plan for everyone, including me. I realized God’s plan for me will always be better and bigger then the plans I had for myself. Becoming the “Peer Leader” in my school’s anti-bullying program helped me grow in human interaction and student leadership for my future. I will always be thankful to my school’s administration for choosing me. I am also thankful to God for knowing that I am capable of more things then I thought possible. And, lastly, I am thankful to myself to be able to overcome that step in my life and letting it form whom I am today.