

## Sophie Meinhardt Memorial Scholarship 2018

Talents are a special natural ability or aptitude. God has given me gifts that have benefited others. "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows" ([www.biblestudytools.com](http://www.biblestudytools.com), James 1:17). God has given me the talents and abilities to have a special way with with kids, being a good friend, and being responsible. I am very thankful for the gifts God has given me. I use these talents as a way to help those around me. Some of them are just by simply helping them or even just listening to them.

Being good with kids benefits other people in many ways. Babysitting is something I enjoy doing, and it is also beneficial to the parents. I like to know I am helping to make their lives a little easier. Another way being good with children benefits other people is just being their friend. Sometimes kids can feel alone, but being there for them makes them feel important. Not only does it make them feel happy, it also gives me a sense of satisfaction. Tutoring is also a way I help children. Some of the kids I know just need some extra help. Sometimes they are frustrated because they do not understand. Being able to explain and guide them makes them realize they can do it.

Being a good friend can make all the difference in the world. Talking to them, comforting them, and making them know they matter is important to me. Sometimes just talking to someone benefits him/her. They could be in a tough situation where they just need someone to talk to. I remember one time when I was scared to talk to a friend or comfort them. I went up and talked to

them, and I learned things about them but also about myself. It doesn't have to be scary--it can be fun. Laughing can benefit others. I always try to be happy and nice to everyone I meet. My friends get upset sometimes, but just making them laugh cheers them up.

However, being responsible is also another amazing gift I have that benefits others. Knowing they can trust and count on me benefits other people. My neighbors travel a lot and they always trust me to get their mail. This shows responsibility. By being responsible, I am trusted to do many different things. In the morning, I always stand in the entryway of school and get preschoolers out of their car. This benefits the parents because they do not have to get out of their cars. I help people in many ways and am always happy to do so. I have helped for several years with our school open house, answering questions and highlighting all of our schools many great qualities.

Each person should use the gifts he/she has been given to help serve others and touch as many people as possible. As faithful stewards of God, our gifts have various forms. By writing this essay, I have realized that every gift from God is special in its own way. By helping others, I learn more about myself and what I am called to do. My gifts not only benefit me but also others. Knowing I can help others by doing things I love is a wonderful feeling. God has given me gifts that I am beyond grateful for. Everyone was created in God's image and should use their talents in the service of others.



