

Real World Skit

Two students discuss what makes a good leader.

Student 1: I can't believe I didn't get elected club president!

Student 2: I heard it was a close vote, so I think you did well.

Student 1: It doesn't matter how close it was when you're the loser. I can't believe Violet will be president for a whole year!

Student 2: I thought you liked Violet.

Student 1: That was BEFORE she decided to run against me. I don't get it. Everyone seemed to like my ideas for fundraising and making our meetings more fun.

Student 2: Yeah! Your ideas are really great, but I think the other kids got nervous when you talked about all the things *they* would need to do.

Student 1: What do you mean? The president's job is to give orders, right?

Student 2: Not exactly. The other kids want to know what *you're* willing to do for the club and for them, not what you plan to make them do.

Student 1: (*frowning*) So, I shouldn't expect them to do anything?

Student 2: I think they're willing to work hard—for the right person. And the right person will lead by example.

Student 1: (*gasping*) They expect me to help with all the grunt work?

Student 2: Yep. That's about it. When they see you working hard and helping out, they'll follow your lead.

Student 1: Does Violet do that?

Student 2: (*nodding*) Yes, Violet does a lot of "grunt" work. I saw her setting up chairs and tables and pouring drinks for the snack before today's meeting.

Student 1: I didn't notice.

Student 2: But some of the other kids did; that's probably why they voted for her.

Student 1: I guess I haven't really helped like that very much. I like doing the big jobs that make me feel good about myself, like raising the most money in our fundraiser.

Student 2: That reminds me of something Jesus said to his followers about being a leader.

Student 1: What did he say?

Student 2: That being a leader means being a servant.

Student 1: That doesn't make sense to me. You don't get much glory that way.

Student 2: I think he meant that when you stop thinking about yourself and the glory, you can focus on serving others. People who do that are pretty rare, so they do get noticed. Eventually, they may be asked to lead.

Student 1: Hmm. I guess I have been focusing a lot on being president and how cool that would make me feel. I wasn't thinking about what's best for everyone else in the group.

Student 2: Well, realizing that you need to change is great! Now you can look for ways to help out and put others first.

Student 1: Okay. I can do that!

Student 2: Maybe we can both come early next week to help set up.

Student 1: Good idea! And I'm going to try to help Violet be our best president yet!