

ONE SPECIAL LEADER

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I will always remember with gratitude one special leader who changed my life for the better.

When I met her, I didn't have many friends. I was not very talkative and would not smile at people. I didn't participate in seminary or other activities. In fact, I went to church only on Sundays. And even then my thoughts wandered in Young Women class. Some of the girls tried to include me, but I closed myself off from them.

When this leader first tried to get close to me, she didn't have much success. At first I didn't even know her name.

Then she gave me a job to do and began to depend on me. I accepted the responsibility only because I didn't know how to tell her no. Then, before I even realized it, she started to become my friend. I began trying harder and harder to fulfill my calling, and I began paying attention in class. I even started attending seminary and other Church activities. I also made friends with the young people in my ward. Soon the gospel was the most important thing in my life.

Who started all these changes in my life? It was my leader. Today when

I look into her eyes, I feel an immense love and gratitude. I am grateful to Heavenly Father for the opportunity of having such a special leader. I am grateful to her for preparing me and being with me on the day I received my endowment in the São Paulo Brazil Temple. I am grateful for her example of love, a love I try to apply in my own life.

Now that I am a Young Women leader in my ward, I hope I can do for my young women at least a part of what she did for me. ■

