

Rachel Gaydusek

I know God put me in the Internship this year with definite purposes. My parents and I had been going through some hard patches, and our relationship was strained because of it. A few months ago, I wanted to be independent and wanted no involvement from my parents. I have been changing, and I would be okay with them involved, but not too much. Talking with people in the Internship really showed me that family relationships are supposed to be healthy and good. On the second day of our trip to New York, we arrived at a church in Michigan where we would do our first service the next morning. I was really uneasy and I talked with Kim. I realized I missed my parents and that what actually would make me feel better would be to connect with them about where I was and what I had been doing that day. This surprised me; as it was a change from how I used to feel. A few weeks later, we were back from the internship, and I was really overwhelmed. Ana Maria noticed I wasn't doing well. She talked with me and helped me see that I needed to accept how God planned for parents and children to have a place in each other's lives. I was fighting very hard to live without my parents. That night, she encouraged me to surrender to God. I prayed, and He righted my heart. More and more, I have been interacting with my parents with love, and they have done so as well. It is such an amazing blessing for God to have worked this out in our lives.