

In 1989, Irv Furman wrote a vignette that readily illustrates the goal of the Young Woman Representative Program on all levels. Read the story and think about its application in your group.

The Starfish

There was a young man walking down a deserted beach just before dawn. In the distance he saw a frail old man. As he approached the old man he saw him picking up stranded starfish and throwing them back into the sea. The young man gazed in wonder as the old man again and again threw the small starfish from the sand to the water. He asked, "Old man, why do you spend so much energy doing what seems to be a waste of time?"



The old man explained that the starfish would die if left in the morning sun.

"But there must be thousands of beaches and millions of starfish!" explained the young man. "How can you make any difference?"

The old man looked down at the small starfish in his hand and as he threw it to the safety of the sea, he said, "I make a difference to this one."



The young man in the story is exemplary of our LWML societies, many of which are without members below the age of 35. The main goal of the Young Woman Representative Program is to reach out and select a few young women, who can in turn, learn about the LWML mission and then help the societies in their area reach out to many more. The old man in this story is a good example of our wise and seasoned LWMLer. This LWMLer seizes each opportunity to be a mentor or even just be God's servant to help that younger ones grow in Christ. How many more starfish can be reached when more than one LWMLer is about the business!!!