

News Story Summary

Michael Brown, a 17-year-old student from Houston, applied to 20 of the leading colleges in the United States and was accepted by all 20, each offering him a scholarship. He attributes hard work, determination and sacrifice as contributing to his success. Michael wants to major in political science, having been involved in debate, mock trials, and student government. Michael has also volunteered in political campaigns. His mother has also worked tirelessly so her son could have opportunities to excel.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the term “Michael Brown accepted”.)

Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, while discussing the two questions printed at the beginning of the session (What factors would you point to when thinking about people who are high achievers in their fields? What factor do you think plays the biggest role? Explain.), share about Michael Brown. Ask: *How do you think he would answer the questions printed in our Personal Study Guide (of Daily Discipleship Guide)?* Continue the step as written.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge ideas, before leading the group to respond to the second question set under Apply the Text, reminding the group about Michael Brown. Emphasize the importance of developing our skills to achieve. Encourage the group to not only seek to identify their spiritual gifts but to also seek to develop those gifts. Ask: *What might keep a person from displaying the same type of commitment when it comes to developing and using our spiritual gifts?* Complete the step as written.