

*At the close of each production, we spend a few minutes in class the next week talking about the show and give a grace-filled critique. On these weeks, our devotion will feature a testimony from one of our students. This week, we asked Caroline Fendrick to share a little about her experience in our ministry.*

I can remember standing on stage waiting for the lights to come up on my first show at STP. I was twelve years old and had never performed in front of a large audience before. Still, standing there in the dark, I felt an overwhelming peace. I could feel God's presence surrounding me in a way I had never felt before. In that small, quiet moment, God felt so close, and I put my full trust in Him to carry me through the performance. He was so faithful.

Looking back now, it's amazing to think of all the ways that God has shaped and grown me through my time at STP. I can honestly say that STP has been one of the biggest influences in growing my relationship with God. I am so blessed that God has given me this amazing place and group of people to encourage me to pray without ceasing, trust in God, and do everything for His glory. These lessons have been so instrumental in my life, and STP is truly the place where they have come to life for me.

Another huge lesson that God has taught me in my time at STP is that I truly can do anything that God calls me to do. I have always been a quiet person. I'm not the most outgoing, and I prefer not to be the center of attention. When I was younger, the thought of being on stage absolutely terrified me, and I firmly believed that I never would. God, however, had different plans. My family and I had seen STP shows for quite a few years, and in 2013 I was somehow given the courage to attend a summer camp. Though this was something I never imagined myself doing, I had an amazing time and begged my mom to sign me up for a class for the next school year. Despite my fear, God was right there beside me and really grew me in that experience.

That was only the beginning though. In all my time at STP, I have done so many things that I never thought I would. From being on stage to working as a TTA, God has put me in lots of stressful situations. I've felt nervous, confused, and overwhelmed, but I truly believe that these are the experiences that have taught me the most. In the times where I've felt empty and inadequate, I have truly been able to rely on God and see him come beside me to carry me through whatever situation I'm facing. It's often easy to believe that you are not good enough or not brave enough or not experienced enough to accomplish something that you are called to do. It doesn't matter though because He is enough. In the times where you feel you have nothing to give, God will supply you with power far greater than your own. This is the biggest lesson that I have learned at STP, and I am so grateful for it. Whenever God calls me to do something, I can rest in the knowledge that He will equip me with the strength and wisdom to do it.