



Dear Master Councilor, Officers and Members,

I'm the guy who petitioned for membership in your Chapter. I'm the guy who paid for his "life membership" and went through the Degrees. I'm the guy who stood up in front of you and obligated myself to be faithful and loyal to the DeMolay ideals.

I'm the guy who attended a few meetings, but always sat alone – nobody paid attention to me. I tried several times to be friendly with some of the Chapter members, but it seemed that they all had their own buddies to talk to and be friendly to. I sat alone several times, as nobody but the adults would pay attention to me. I hoped very much that one of the Chapter leaders would have asked me to take part in planning a fund-raising project or something, but nobody responded when I tried to volunteer.

I missed a few meetings after joining because I was sick and my parents wouldn't let me be there. Nobody asked me at the next meeting where I had been. I guess it didn't matter much to you guys whether I was there or not. The next meeting night, I decided not to bother and rather, I decided to stay home and play my X-Box. I attended the following meeting, and again nobody asked me where I had been the previous meeting night.

You might say I was a good guy, one who was active for a while, but soon was distracted and followed other interests. I'm one who wishes to give back to others and stay out of trouble, with pride in my community and my country. But, you know who else I am? I'm the guy who never came back.

It amuses me when I think back on how the Chapter leaders and the adults were always discussing why the organization was losing members. I think back on all the time you spent looking for new members when others like me were there the whole time. All you had to do was make me feel needed, wanted and welcome – like I was one of your Brothers.

Regretfully yours,

A member you lost