

Friday Morning Devotions
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I've been told that the YMCA builds strong families. But a family is not just the people you are related to. It's the people who care about you and motivate you to be your best.

Everyone on the Jets supports each other, from the coaches to the youngest swimmers. At the beginning of this season, we had 5 swimmers qualified for nationals. By the end of the season we qualified 6 more.

Our best chance to make nationals was in Champaign. I remember every qualifying swim. On Saturday night my teammate Jessica and I were trying to qualify in the mile. We were both very nervous. A lot of our team came back to the meet to cheer us on. We were the only 2 from our team swimming and we ended up missing the by 4 seconds. But everyone still congratulated us on our swims. I will never forget their support.

That next Monday was our very last chance to make more cuts. There were 6 other Illinois Y teams there. It was such an exciting meet. All the teams cheered for each other. When I was swimming my 200 free I could see another coach screaming for me to go faster. I didn't even know who he was.

It was great to see all these other Y teams acting together to motivate all the swimmers. Everyone pulled together to motivate each other. That's what a family does. They're there when you need them to push you ahead.

Even though we're all at this meet racing each other, we're all still one giant family.

Please join me in prayer:

Dear Lord,

Thank you for this opportunity for all of us to come together to enjoy the sport we love. Please keep everyone safe on their trip home.

Amen.