Hello everyone, I hope this day finds you well and filled with energy. Today, I want to share a personal story with you, one that changed my perspective on empowerment and self-belief. A few years ago, I was standing exactly where you are now, filled with hope but also uncertainty about my path ahead. I remember feeling overwhelmed with expectations, unsure if I could ever make a difference or even figure out my next step. One day, I came across an opportunity to volunteer at a local community center. At first, I hesitated. I didn't think I had much to offer--I was just a student, after all. But something pushed me to give it a try. When I arrived, I was welcomed by a vibrant group of young people, each with their own stories, aspirations, and challenges. They reminded me so much of myself. I started small, helping with after-school programs, sharing some of the things I'd learned, and just listening. It was through these interactions that I realized empowerment wasn't about having all the answers, but about taking the first step, no matter how small it might seem. There's power in listening, in sharing our experiences, and in supporting one another. These young people inspired me to pursue my passions and to believe in my own voice. They showed me that empowerment is a two-way street; as we lift others, we lift ourselves. And so, I stand here today not just to share my story, but to encourage you to take that first step, whatever it might be for you. Say yes to opportunities, help someone, or simply be kind to yourself and others. Your experiences and your voice matter more than you might know. Remember, empowerment begins with believing in your own potential and in the power of your actions--no matter how small they may seem now, they can create ripples far beyond what you can imagine.

Thank you.