A CALL FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL TEACHING

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Transformational teaching will require a change of philosophy as well as pedagogy. This has to take place in the lives of educators if we are empowering our learners. However, not everyone favors change. It will sometimes mean isolation on the part of the teacher who desires to live according to the different philosophy. Transformation happens when teacher and learner meet at the peak of maximum learning and teaching. Transformational teaching is more than a simple transaction and require more than mere transmission of information. And certainly, the measure of success goes beyond the learner's ability to mouth information he revived. In transformational teaching, the teacher hopes to empower the learner to engage his world, be able to interact with knowledge he receives and contribute significantly to the world around him. As such, transformational teaching hopes to arm the learner with critical thinking and creative thinking in order to equip him for life, and not just for the next exam. This would also require the teacher to be able to teach in a way that inspires and enables critical and creative thinking, and would require the teacher to grow continually. I strongly believe, learning occurs when the learner's "educational experiences elicit a transformation of consequences that leads to a greater understanding of and care for self, others and the community. With this principle transformational teaching - learning needs to be intentional. Empowerment happens when student, teacher and curriculum -class exchanges are positive and constructive. It happens when they can openly communicate their uncertainties, face up to the strange and unfamiliar, and create their personal thinking space. Build an atmosphere of community learning within the classroom that is
based upon genuine love and admiration - a sale place where learners can share themselves and their aspirations. The reality is, teachers are hired to teach and transmit knowledge to students. Knowing that transformational teaching involve more than that, balance is needed. Implanting information in an atmosphere that provides growth is the objective. Information cannot be imposed on the students against their will. When educators and students engage each other in dialogue and contemplation, they bring out their creativity and critical reasoning. They become connected in creating and building an information base that lead not only to self-understanding but also to world praxis. Educators should strive to deal with events and situations occurring in the classroom setting. Teachers can keep classroom interaction lively through "the teacher's effort, skillful mode of delivery, questioning and receiving answers." A teacher can empower learners by listening to them and modeling personal reflection through constructive discourse. Teaching is hard work, but God is with us, in us, and working through us. Teachers need God to work in the daily-ness of the task teaching. Transformational learning and teaching calls upon educators to give their best. It asks noble people to be used by the Master to make difference in the lives of students who come to their classrooms and lives.

References: