MENTOR’S HAND

by:
Jocelyn Dacion Roxas
Teacher I, Bataan School of Fisheries

“He believed he could, so, he did!”

Pepe was born with a golden spoon in his mouth. The seventh son of a wealthy family in Calamba, Laguna. A polyglot, mathematician, writer, a doctor by profession and most of all a national hero that aroused the sleeping giants in many Filipinos to fight for their rights and to stand for the welfare of their native land.

You might be asking why do I need to cite Rizal or what is the connection of Rizal in this article. He once said that the youth are the future of one’s nation. The new generation who will free the country from the bondage of slavery. But if we look at the present situation of the youth today or the millennial as they called them, can we say that these youths are worthy of the sacrifice that Rizal did one hundred twenty-four years ago at the blood-drenched grounds of Bagumbayan?

Maybe we can get split answers from different perspectives, some may claim that “yes they are worthy of his sacrifice” but others may say that “they are unworthy of his trust”. But as teachers where do we stand? Do we believe that these children are hopeless cases? Or do we still find in our hearts that this is not yet the end of a lost battle.

You might be reflecting for what will be your possible answer at the moment. Reminiscing the years on how you teach those students and finding a concrete answer in your heart an astounding answer of YES! They are not hopeless cases!

Like Rizal, teachers are strong forces in motivating the students to excel and persevere beyond difficult tasks, conquer miles, explore heights and dream big dreams. According to a published article in Nation (2014) and as cited by Obiechina (2017),
education is an important component of the success of one’s country. It reflects the tradition, culture and faith on the kind of educational system existing in one’s society. The study expounds on the role of education to the member of the society and its effect in the national development of the country. In addition, as teachers, our main goal is to guide the students in conquering their fears and achieving their dreams. Teachers should be like Rizal who was not easily persuaded to give up his dream of attaining freedom of his country despite tantamount obstacles on his path. He died believing that trusting is not a waterloo for a noble cause. I did not say that we should die like our national hero but we should remember if everyone else dared not thread the broken path, who else will start?

As teachers, we need to remember that pain is not an option, it is a requirement for success. Remember what Rizal did he dreamed, he believed though he did not survived physically but his legacy will continue to thrive.

References:
