THE ESSENCE OF BEING A TEACHER

by:

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One of the most important decisions you will make in life is choosing a career. It is about so much deciding what you will do to make a living. We have different reasons on choosing the best career for us to pursue. As teacher, perhaps, you were inspired by an incredible teacher and wanted to make the same kind of positive impact on others.

As we continue to grow and develop with our chosen career, we may experience ups and downs. We may encounter some distractions? We may face many challenges.

“Do we make difference in the lives of our children? Do they take the lessons we taught them and apply them in real life? Do they learn anything from us? Do the seeds we cast bear any fruit?” This perhaps the most challenging part of being a teacher.

Teaching is widely regarded as one of the professions that has a great purpose. It is not only a profession with rigorous standards, it is also a calling to serve others. It is a tough but a rewarding career.

Teachers are not just persons who roam around the four corners of the classroom and teach their lesson as planned. Not just a person who work overtime preparing PowerPoints, tests and activities. Rather, teachers are person who have the capacity to touch and mold hearts and mind, and yet will never get paid as well as doctors or lawyers. They are at the frontline of education and play a major part in shaping the values, knowledge and skills of the learners. Despite they sometimes get figuratively burned, they continue to strive in bringing light and warmth to the learners’ lives that enter their classrooms. They may also have discouraging moment, but for them, at least one life
touched is more than enough reward. They genuinely want their learners to succeed, not just in classroom, but in life.

Ignatius Titus, a financial journalist, once said, “Because without teachers, there would be no teaching, with no teaching comes no understanding, and with no understanding comes misunderstanding. With misunderstanding, there would be a great number of societal issues. Misunderstanding of racial differences, resulting to hate crime. Misunderstanding of sex, resulting in rape and widespread of disease and teenage pregnancy. Misunderstanding of what is right and wrong, resulting to riot and murder.”

Truly, the fruits of a teacher’s labor never come in the form of material wealth but with improved society through better human development. Teachers educate, enrich, equip, and empower to make people productive and more valuable human beings.

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