

INVISIBLY VISIBLE

by:

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Deeply moved by the narrative of Teddy Stollard, who's a fifth-grade learner in an elementary school who hasn't forgotten about Mrs. Thompson, her teacher in fifth-grade and considered by himself as the best teacher he ever had, I realized that teachers can really make miracles and these miracles are God's entrusted mission for every educator to fulfill in this world. If not for Mrs. Thompson, Teddy wouldn't have realized that he is more than his own problems in life. When Mrs. Thompson first saw Teddy, he was nothing but a poor learner on the side who barely speak in class. Mrs. Thompson would even take joy in marking his papers 'F'. When Mrs. Thompson saw the previous report cards of her learners, she read that Teddy was doing well and is an intelligent learner in first-grade until his mother did not make it and left him with nothing. Mrs. Thompson cried and was challenged to do more than teaching.

From that time on Teddy became one of his teacher's pets. The teacher made him feel home. Teddy sees Mrs. Thompson as someone who had saved him in the most difficult phase of his life. He learns to trust himself and graduated elementary as the valedictorian of his class. Mrs. Thompson took pride of Teddy's accomplishments. She received a letter from Teddy after the graduation stating that Mrs. Thompson is still his best teacher. Four years had passed and the teacher received another letter from Teddy, letting her know that he's still the top student in his class and that Mrs. Thompson is still his best teacher.

After a long 10 years, Mrs. Thompson received another letter but this time Teddy's name is a bit longer with an 'M.D.' in the end. She couldn't thank Mrs. Thompson enough

and he said in the letter that Mrs. Thompson is still the best teacher he ever had. Later in the last few years of Mrs. Thompson, she got an invitation and knew that Teddy is getting married and that he'd like her to be there to represent his late mother. On the day of the wedding, Mrs. Thompson and Teddy were in tears. Teddy gave Mrs. Thompson a warm big hug and whispered "Thank you for believing in me." Mrs. Thompson, still in tears, told Teddy that "It is you whom should I thank, I didn't know how to teach until I met you."

If we are to reflect to this very touching narrative, we get to realize that our functions as teachers go beyond 'just teaching'. We are educators for a reason and God gave us the perfect season to turn nothing into something. Each time our learners achieve, we also do. Each time they fail, we also fail. If every single one of us would see education the way Mrs. Thompson saw it, we would lift every Teddy Stollard in our class so high that they find strength in themselves.

We need our learners as much as we need them. We will never be called teachers if not for our students. The invisibly visible element that should always be present in our class is love. No less, no more.

References:

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