

LEARNING FROM MY STUDENTS

by:

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I once read an excerpt from Robert Fulghum's book which says that everything that we needed to know about life, we all learned them in kindergarten. When I tried to digest what this means, I did try to recount all the things I learned when I was just six years old back then in my kindergarten years. I was taught to be honest, diligent, to play, to be inquisitive, to dream, to be helpful and all good values that will help me become a good person one day. Now that I am an adult, a mother to my only son, a wife, and a teacher, I realized that in some ways, I failed to live with those values I which were taught to me in my kindergarten years. Oftentimes there were value conflicts that are difficult to manage especially when it involves family and my role as a public-school teacher. Honestly, there were even times that I tended more on the needs of my students than on the needs of my own child. It did hurt and sometimes it frustrated me. How can I show care more of my students needs and whose parents' I do not know were not doing their role as parents in expense of my own child's needs?

Yet, God is good! He gave me a son who is very caring and open - minded and evensupported me and give me consolation whenever I had problems with some of my students. Then I realized that probably God sent me to these kids and made me a teacher to be His instrument of showing His divine love, care, and presence to them. With this new attitude, I began to have a deeper perspective about my students. I began to see clearly and vividly the joys in their faces. I began to understand their sad faces whenever problems are confronting them. I began to learn so many good things from them whenever they share their thoughts, their feelings, their dreams and aspirations in life, their hardships, everything. It helped me go back to my childhood days and relived my

then joys, worries, and hopes. Finally, I am so glad that I am a teacher because teaching these kids allows me at the same to learn from them.

References:

Fulghum, Robert (1990). All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten.

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