

## THE WORK IS NEVER OURS BUT HIS

*by:*

**Jacqueline R. Dominguez**

*Teacher III, Samal National High School - Main*

A lot of the learning that students do are theoretical learnings that devoid of application and relevance. Theory-testing is hardly part of the learning process. Yet, this is how one tests whether the students have actually learned the lesson. Due to this pandemic, the application of theories comes close to home and nearby community. The students can verify right away if the theory is applicable to any of the concepts taught to them. The students' learning becomes alive and real.

When the outcome of the assessment shows the expected desired change then educational engagement is successful. If I were teaching grade 3 Mathematics, then my expectation is that they will be able to use mathematical, logical, and computational thinking to apply Mathematical theories into real-life practice. They can buy merchandise without being cheated nor cheating others. On a higher level, the results of PRC administered exams in various disciplines will show the stock knowledge of the examiners. The application can only be determined in actual work. Critical and creative thinking as well as values acquisition do not form part of the assessment.

I started this synopsis by describing the two functions of education as either transmitter or transformer. In addition, education may be managed in order to affect positively or lead education towards effectiveness. We have gotten used to see school head as a manager, one who sets the rules, maintains the order and stabilizes the status quo. The manager is anxious and stressed about disturbances, disharmony, and disruptions present in the school. The leader, on the other hand, is more concerned whether the objectives of the institution are being met. The leader thrives best in

destabilization and disturbances; in the challenges to traditions and set practices. The leader leads the way while the manager picks up the pieces along the way. At this time in the history of our educational system, a leader who will weather through the crisis is needed in order to make the crisis an opportunity for a greater change to happen.

The educational engagement is what we are all about and the teacher as the heart of it. The teacher with the necessary competence using effective pedagogical technology is instrumental in bringing about the desired changes to the students. We must remember that the teacher remains God's instrument to "challenging the mind, touching the heart, and moving to action" - the student. Truly, just an instrument, "for if the Lord does not build, then in vain does the worker labor." For, after all the work of salvific education is the work of God and the teacher shares in the work. Truly, Lord, the work is Yours.

*References:*

<https://transformingteachers.org/en/articles/philosophy-of-education/624-why-education-matters-to-god>

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/1960/may-9/word-of-god-in-education.html>

<https://baguioheraldexpressonline.com/teaching-a-profession-or-a-vocation/>