

End of the Year!

Are you Blue or Celebrating?

The end of a school year brings about many emotions for teachers. Some teachers may be excited for summer and are celebrating. Some teachers may be coming off of one of their toughest years in ministry and are struggling and tired. Teachers also could be feeling inadequate as they feel they may have failed their students and did not feel that the year went well. There are those teachers who may be celebrating their retirement from the ministry. I recall a certain year that I had a particular student who I worked very hard with. She was challenging to say the least but for some reason we had a great connection. I remember that last day of school making me feel somewhat sad to say goodbye to her. I know she was struggling with this feeling as well. I was able to attend her high school graduation a few years ago and I was proud of the young lady she had become.

Regardless of how you are feeling know that God was with you through the journey this year. You should remember that our lives are a work in progress, and there is no failure as long as we are striving to become more Christ-like and perform in ministry in a way that brings God glory.

Paul says in I Corinthians 9:24, "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it." This is fulfilling promise for us, a choice that will leave a lasting impression on your students. Know that you did finish strong and you used intentional moments to bless your students. In ministry we have the ability to encourage fruitful discussions and to interject as many life lessons as we can. We get to praise successes, lovingly challenge those students that God has entrusted into our care, and give our heart to every one of our students.

Did you finish strong? Maybe the real question is did I ask God to help me do my best every day? Did I look to Him for strength and wisdom? Did I grow closer to Him this year? Did I actively seek out ways to become less self-centered and more giving to my fellow teachers, students and families?

"I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7. You made a difference in your students' lives. Now go and celebrate the impact you had on your students, families, and staff.

You fought the fight and won! Your class was blessed by your service.

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