

I Am Willing

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In March of 1996, I received a phone call from a mother who was desperately in need of assistance. Her daughter, while attending summer camp, had suffered a serious head injury that almost claimed her life. As a result, Sue (fictitious name), had great difficulty concentrating and retaining information. I was asked to tutor her for the remainder of the academic year and I accepted the challenge. Surprisingly, I found myself back at school in an Adventist Academy.

The days were filled with note taking and simplifying the information that was given in class. Sue spent an excessive amount of time in her studies just to recall the information for her quizzes and tests. With dedication, hard work and determination she was promoted to the next grade. I helped her colleagues from time to time and although it appeared 'cool', I thought that was not where I wanted to be. I had no idea, then, that the fall of 1996 would be the beginning of my journey in teaching. The thought of working in an Adventist institution and much more, to be enjoying it, was inconceivable.

One of my professors stated that "everything that you've learned about teaching will not prepare you for your first year of teaching. If you keep this in mind you will be fine". These words have helped to keep my attention focused on God who guides and directs my path. "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 19:14).

Teaching music for the past six years has been exhilarating and although our school is small (90 students), we're big on music (67 students). The students that God has entrusted to me are a wonderful group of children who have performed at churches, concerts and special occasions. They have sacrificed weekends and some recess time in order to be where they are today. They are known as 'God's Children' and I do believe that they reflect that name. When they stand before an audience or congregation, humility, excitement, beauty, poise, and innocence radiate from their faces.

"Ministry in Motion" is a group of young ladies that combine body movement and sign language. They have been performing for the past three years and are sensational in action. Ellen G. White states, "Those who in everything make God first and last and best are the happiest people in the world." (MYP p.38). God has always been the centre of our programs. Every performance begins and ends with prayer. I have used this quote from time to time as my motto.

Why? God gave you everything that you can possibly need in this life and the life to come. Molding minds is molding character.

You may think that I am highly qualified in this area. Guess again.

No, I do not have a voice like an angel.

No, I do not have a music degree.

What do I have?

I have dreams, aspirations, a willing heart, and God.

Is this enough?

Yes. Why?

All that God requires is that we are willing to let Him lead in our lives. There isn't anything so big that God cannot do it. It doesn't matter who you are, where you're from or what you do. If you are willing, put God to the test and He will not fail you. "The Lord is on my side: I will not fear: what can man do unto me?" (Psalm 118: 6).

References:

- White, Ellen G. Messages to Young People. Nashville, Tennessee: Southern Publishing Association, 1930.