<The 3rd grade : light and dark>

‘ slow and steady win the game’

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23 is not the old and young age. By age, I am an adult in our society. However, I think I am still a child. It seems to be paradoxical. Our society makes an emphasis on what I have to do to be an whole adult and self-effort. But I haven’t prepared yet to be an adult who works in a society.

Therefore, I miss my pure childhood a lot. That time, my age was young and everyone took care of me also helped me even when I didn’t ask for a help. Because all of them accepted my childness. And I didn’t have any problems or worries. I was always happy to play with my friends. In addition, the reason that I miss my childhood is that I have a lot of great memories in my young age. Especially, my 3rd grade elementary school teacher is very special to me and I want to see him again now. And that is why I want to unite my topic.

My elementary school is in Daegu which is my hometown and it is named ‘Song-Hyun’. It is the best school life in my life. Among many respectful and great teachers, I think the teacher who was my 3rd grade teacher named ‘Jung-Sung Wook’ is the most memorable and favorite teacher. As he is so special for me, our class was very meaningful for him at that time. Because Our class was the first time for him to teach. We did a lot of things that he wanted to do with us when he became a teacher.

One of the biggest events we had was school arts festival. We sang a song with a sign language. When we chose a song that we had to sing, we decided it by voting. He heard our opinions very carefully and gave a respect to students. Therefore, our classroom was student centered environment and student talk time was more than teacher’s one. Also that time, I served as the president in the class. I had to open the festival with my opening ceremony. I was so nervous not to make any mistake. When the teacher acknowledged my feeling, he encouraged me to do well and he said he was sure that you were the best qualified person to do the most important thing at here. It gave me a power and I could do it perfectly.

Another event that we had was making our traditional clothing named ‘Han-bok’ by ourselves. We prepared very big traditional Korean papers handmade from mulberry trees , cut them and decorated with many materials. After making them, we did fashion show and chose ‘ truth, goodness, and beauty ’ like Miss Korea Beauty Contest. Like this, we did many free activities that we were so interested to participate in. And no one felt bored also all of the attendants did their best. At that time, the development of technology was very low and limited. Because of this, we could do more active things in our class.

Of course, my class was not always peaceful and happy. Sometimes students didn’t follow teacher’s instruction and it made him angry. However, he didn’t yell and shout or punish students. He gave us a mission. It was called ‘Become healthy’. All of students were afraid of it. Because it was so hard and knees became so strenuous. ‘Become healthy’ was to take a posture like sitting on a chair and should maintain that posture for 30min. After we did that, our body were shaking not by our will. Some people can think it is not a right way to correct a playful student’s bad acting. But any student who experienced that became more cautious to take care of their acting in a classroom.

And Finally, there was the most impressive event. When we finished our semester and became the 4thgrade, my teacher did very special and awesome event for us. He said to us that it was his dream when he was a student who prepared the exam for becoming a teacher. He was a Christian and respected Jesus. Following the gospel, the Jesus washed his students’ toes by his hands to share his heart and meanings. My teacher told us to come out one by one. Also, he made the video with our photos and background music. The song’s title is ‘You are born to be loved’. We all cried when we started to watch that video. Because all our friends were so nice and we didn’t want to get far away. And I couldn’t accept that I should say good-bye to my teacher and my friends. When my turn come, my eyes were so red because of a lot of crying. When I arrived at teacher, I started to cry again. Then, he smiled benevolently and started to wash my toes. He said to me “You are my precious and unforgettable student in my first time to teach. Please don’t forget this moment and share your love and your bright energy to each other like this. You will become a great person to achieve your goal. Anywhere you are at, you will be shiny and be loved by everyone. You are the person who is valuable to get a love from others. Thank you for making a good memory for me with you. I love you.” I was so moved and realized the moment of parting. Only After finishing all turns of students, he stood up. When he washed our toes, he went on his knees about for an hour.

My second-grade teacher was so teacher-centered and didn’t listen to students’ opinions. So I didn’t like her a lot. However, my 3rd grade teacher ‘Sung-Wook’ was opposite with her. He was almost my friend. Sometimes, when I played with my boyfriend, then he teased us and ran away. It was so fun and the bond between teacher and us becomes more and more stubborn. Also, our school’s schoolyard was so big like park. And there were so many machines that we could exercise and many trees and flowers. When the spring come, big cherry blossom trees were in full bloom. Then, our friends and teacher went to the schoolyard to see that scenery and took photos together. It was so beautiful and warm-hearted feeling. In addition, he held birthday parties by each month. We sang a song together and ate a cake that he bought for us.

By these reasons, he was the best teacher and the most favorite teacher in my life.

When I write this essay about my teacher, I am so happy to reminisce about good old memories. And I am so lucky that I met this perfect teacher when I was elementary school student. Because of him, I learned a lot of things. In the past, I didn’t exactly know about his true meanings but now, when I have hard time to strive to achieve my goal, many words that he talked to me come across my mind. It is very powerful motivation for me not to give up. For example, when a failure recurs, my dignity goes down and down. However, the word that teacher said which is that I am a person who is valuable to be loved is very helpful and the proverb that he told us importantly again and again ‘slow and steady win the game’ is always in my mind. So now, if I experience a failure, I don’t mind. I just strive more and more.

I will stand to his promise. I will share my love and energy to everyone that I love or is needed some help. When I finish TESOL course, I want to be a teacher who is same as him and want to make a great memory with students like me.

I will study TESOL course hard to become a good teacher.