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Kalicia Morrison
Andrews University

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His Plan, His Peace

BY KALICIA MORRISON

I t was nearing the end of August as I stood barefoot on the warm, concrete driveway at my parents' house. I was outside, having a life-plan conversation with God. I very clearly told him I would be willing to do anything for Him — seriously, *anything* — *except* teaching. I could not see myself as a teacher nor did I want to teach, so I decided it obviously wouldn't or couldn't be God's plan.

Not long after I left this conversation, I felt a tug on my heart that my restriction on God was not fair and I should return to the warm concrete for Part 2. I expressed how I didn't want to limit him, and that I was sorry for doing so. This time, I simply pleaded that he would not call me to education and that, if he did, he would need actually to change my heart.

Shortly after those conversations, I was accepted at Andrews University. For two years, I studied general classes and considered nearly every other field of study; strangely, I could not find his path or his peace until one day, I simply thought *How about education?* After desperately running around seeking God's will to no avail, I had my first experience of the peace that passes all understanding, in the very thing against which I had pleaded!

Now, here I am, three years later, in my very first year of "learning" as a principal/teacher of a one room K-8 school. I frequently find my tears of gratefulness pouring out to God for so gently leading and changing my heart, despite my sinful stubbornness. I often say, "I can't imagine doing anything else; I love teaching so much!" God always knows what he is doing when he calls us into his plan. He knows each of our hearts and desires better than we do. To



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me, teaching is not a job, a paycheck, summer vacations, snow days or something I did because I couldn't find anything else to do. Teaching is my calling, my ministry and my mission.

I know I am effective only if I first sit in his classroom before I ever step foot in mine. Although an invisible enemy wars for the hearts and minds of children, when dedicated

and surrendered to God my classroom becomes a kitchen for hungry souls, a hospital for hurting hearts, and a fitness center where our faith in Jesus can grow through the study of his Word.

Thank you, Jesus, for showing me your plan through a beautiful, specific series of events in my life. Thank you for allowing me the privilege to reflect on what you have done, giving me a glimpse of the big eternal picture. Thank you for growing my faith when I don't understand how you are working. Thank you for giving me eight incredible students whose smiles brighten every school day. Thank you for choosing me to minister with you and the heavenly hosts to teach others of your kingdom.

Kalicia Morrison is principal/teacher at the Charlotte Adventist Christian School and a member of the Charlotte Church in Michigan. Kalicia graduated from Andrews University in May 2013.