My primary motivation for pursuing a career in teaching is a sense of calling from the Lord. Teachers make a deep and lasting impact in students’ lives. Every child needs good teachers who will be an advocate and mentor for them and believe in them and challenge them to their full potential as individuals. I think that as good, Christian teachers love and care for students God is glorified. The service aspect of teaching is by far for me the most appealing motivation for entering the field. As the reading highlighted, I see teaching as an honorable profession in which I can make a positive contribution for my students and also for our society as a whole.

That’s my idealistic motivation -- however, as the reading pointed out, so very practical issues like benefit packages and salary are other motivations for me. With my background as a youth pastor, even the lowest teacher salary is a step up. And things like health insurance matter to me a lot more now than when I was 19 years old.

Just with my experience in Korea, I can testify to the stress involved with teaching. At least for me, I don’t know how invest and serve my students without also feeling responsible t for their performance and progress -- or lack. The grading and paperwork and records are a necessary but tedious part of the job.

Every profession has its positive and negative aspects. However, I am highly motivate to prepare and spend my life as a teacher because I believe that on the whole the rewards of serving and enriching students and society weigh much heavier in the balance than any negative aspect could. I want my life to make a difference in this world – for good and for God, and teaching is a worthy means to that end.