Giving by Praising

Each time we meet, from you I hear
Some word of praise, a bit of cheer.
You see some hidden, struggling trait;
Encourage it and make it great.
Tight-fisted little buds of good
Bloom large because you said they would.
A glad, mad music in me sings;
My soul sprouts tiny flaming wings.
My day takes on a brand-new zest.
Your gift of praising brings my best,
 Revives my spirit, flings it high;
For God loves praise, and so do I.
—Author Unknown

Everybody Needs Encouragement!

Quotes from David Brandt Berg

■ Most people are not really conceited, but feel a certain amount of inferiority and tend to get a little discouraged with themselves, therefore encouragement is a very important thing! I do it all the time!—I praise everybody for everything they do that I see is good.

■ We all need the encouragement of others, and yet most of us fail all too often to express appreciation or comfort to those about us! As we must account for every idle word (see Matthew 12:36,37), so we must for every idle silence!

■ The showing of genuine gratitude and appreciation of [another’s] help immediately tends to make a proffered friend even more friendly, and inclined to befriend you again.

■ Try to remind yourself constantly of others’ good qualities, the good things, and try not to think about their shortcomings. All the way through the Bible, the Lord commended people for their good works. It has nothing to do with our salvation, which is a free gift, but it’s our service and good works for Him that He especially commends. Thank God that He really appreciates our sacrifice and the things we do for Him above and beyond the call of duty!

■ Always remember, everyone is hungry for praise and starving for honest appreciation!