

Evaluation of Talent

A man came to the studio of British artist Gabriel Rossetti (1828-1882) with samples of his drawings, and asked for a candid opinion of their quality. Looking them over, Rossetti saw that they had little value, and in a kind way he let his visitor know that he lacked any real talent.

The man then took from under his coat another set of sketches, saying that they were the work of a young student. The master artist immediately recognized that they displayed a remarkable talent. He predicted that without a doubt the youth would soon distinguish himself.

With a look of regret, the man said to Rossetti, "Sir, I was that student. I failed to persevere in my work because my teacher seemed so demanding. You are right in your estimation of my latest drawings. As I feared, they are of little or no value."

The lesson here is not for artists alone. Each person who works in Life Care, Century Park or Life Care at Home has been given unique and remarkable gifts by the Creator.

It could be the gift of administration, taking a team of individuals and orchestrating their talents to the accomplishment of a vision or goals. Perhaps it is an implant of innovation, with a flair for creating solutions, programs or directions for an organization. Maybe it is the mastery of culinary arts, the ability to delight others in their need for sustenance.

God may have bestowed on you the spirit of encouragement, bringing hope to those hungry for it. Did He endow you with compassion, which inspires and lifts its beneficiaries?

Whatever that gift may be, it requires an understanding of its possession, a gratitude that He has so honored you, and frequent exercise of it, polishing and developing it.

Only then do we reach the potential God intended for us.

--Beecher Hunter