

Having Faith in Others

People's instincts are pretty good at knowing when others have faith in them. As leaders in Life Care and Century Park, it is important for us to understand that truth.

Associates can sense if your belief is genuine or phony. And truly having faith in someone can change his or her life.

In his book, *Move Ahead with Possibility Thinking*, the late Robert Schuller, longtime pastor of the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California, told a wonderful story about an incident that changed his life as a boy. It occurred when his uncle had faith in him and showed it in words and actions. Here is what he wrote:

His car drove past the unpainted barn and stopped in a cloud of summer dust at our front gate. I ran barefooted across the splintery porch and saw my uncle Henry bound out of the car. He was tall, very handsome, and terribly alive with energy. After many years overseas as a missionary in China, he was visiting our Iowa farm.

He ran up to the old gate and put both of his big hands on my four-year-old shoulders. He smiled widely, ruffled my uncombed hair, and said, "Well! I guess you're Robert! I think you're going to be a preacher someday."

That night, I prayed secretly, "And dear God, make me a preacher when I grow up!" I believe that God made me a possibility thinker then and there.

So pay attention: As a leader in our companies, and as you work to become a person of influence in your career and in your community, always remember that your goal is not to get people to think more highly of you. It is to get them to think more highly of themselves. Have faith in them, and they will begin to do exactly that.

Today, help someone who doubts to have faith in himself or herself.

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter