

What Plato Did

Because I was an English major in college, my friends thought it was more than coincidence – and appropriate – that I was dating the daughter of Plato. It was true, and I married her. That was Lola's father's name, Plato Crabtree. An owner of farms who worked at a variety of interesting jobs throughout his life, he was always very kind and extremely supportive of me. Among his qualities, Plato Crabtree was a great encourager for Lola and me as we began our marriage and throughout the time that he remained on this earth. I was truly blessed with the in-laws that I had.

All through history, we read of people who encouraged others. For example, that other Plato (428-348 B.C.), the Greek philosopher, taught Aristotle (384-322 B.C.). And it was Aristotle whose pupil was Alexander the Great (356-323 B.C.), who became King of Macedonia.

Good teachers realize the importance of first complimenting their students, then showing them ways they can improve. This practice worked then, and it works today – in families, in schools, in businesses, in churches.

As you go about your tasks today in Life Care, American Lifestyles and Life Care at Home, are you encouraging those you encounter – your residents, your associates, your family members, and vendors who arrive in your building? If so, you will leave a seed that will bear positive fruit in their lives.

Try it and see for yourself.

--Beecher Hunter