# "The Gift That Keeps On Giving"

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January 1, 2012 [](http://uniquepathways.websitehabitat.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2011/11/CCF10272011_00000.jpg)First Blog of many to come from ***The Gift of Presence*** How you can give “The gift that keeps on giving” For parents, teachers, leaders in companies, and anyone who lives and breathes. WELCOME!!!  The new year is here and I am making a promise to myself to grow with the season.  You are the recipient of a brand new blog that will give you the opportunity to contemplate what has made you grow to be the person you are today.  What and who has given you the inspiration to go beyond the ordinary? Or in some cases, what do you still need in order to fulfill your promise to yourself?  And if you haven’t made a promise, what are you waiting for? When I was a teacher, I would call the roll and the students would answer, “Present”.   Sure they were in their seats, but were they truly present?  Were they *ready to listen*, *able to express their emotions*,  *flexible and open to ideas*,  *available to assist others and demonstrate true authenticity that would enable them to trust and connect with their peers and their teacher?* Being present is all of the above and can become **“The gift that keeps on giving”.** I was in second grade, just eight years old.  I now am at the age where I cannot remember what I ate for breakfast, but I can remember the experience I had with Miss Scheib at P.S. 216 in Brooklyn, N.Y. It was Parent Visitation Day.  Miss Scheib sat at her desk wearing a maroon gabardine suit. Her right leg was extended wearing a cast that she “won” due to a skiing mishap.  She had shiny brown hair in a page boy style.  She spoke softly, yet was exciting in her teaching methods.  It was snack time and in her sweet voice she noticed my mother, who was pregnant with my brother, and asked if she would like a container of milk.  It is as if I were there today.  I visualize the moment.  Why? Because Miss Scheib had **presence**.  She knew how to listen and observe and connect with her students.  She had the emotional ability to see into a situation.  She taught me, unconsciously perhaps, that this is what is important in communication and relationship building. Just be; be available to others; be ready to act with flexibility; be a role model so your legacy will be embraced by others to bring our world to a better place. I became a teacher, a second grade teacher.  I remembered the gift Miss Scheib gave me.  And for 35 years, I gave that same gift to my students, my friends, my family, and my colleagues.  Today I am a leadership and life coach.  It is my promise to my clients to give them “the gift of presence” so they can facilitate their world of relationships to continue their legacy.  This gift monetarily costs nothing; however, not giving it can cost another their individuality, their sense of well being, and their lust for life.  *The gift of presence* makes the garden grow.  Today is your day, in the new season, to be present to those who you can give this gift to.  Simply said: be there, listen, and show you care. Who will you start with today?  You will get back a tremendous sense of well being.  And who doesn’t need that in today’s world?

* Please send me stories of who, due to presence, inspired you to be who you are today.
* Let me know how your presence inspired others.

Let’s inspire each other by what we have to share. \*Invite a friend or colleague to lunch.  Ask an open ended question.  Then be there to listen.  Simple, but so profound. Email me at: [Isabel@uniquepathways.com](mailto:Isabel@uniquepathways.com)