



You're a Gift to this World

Think about yourself!

Think what a remarkable, unduplicatable and miraculous thing it is to be YOU. Of all the people who have come and gone on the Earth – Abraham, George Washington and Michelle Obama – not one of them is like *you*!

No one who has ever lived, or is to come, has your combinations of talents, looks, friends or opportunities. No one's hair grows exactly the same way yours does. No one's fingerprints are like yours. No one laughs at all the same things you do. No one prays about exactly the same concerns as you do. No one is loved by the same combination of people that you love – *no one*! No one before, no one to come.

You are absolutely unique!

Enjoy that uniqueness. You do not have to pretend in order to seem more like someone else. You weren't meant to be like someone else. You were meant to be different. If you did not exist, there would be a gap in history and something missing from this world. Treasure your uniqueness. Enjoy it!

Share your uniqueness. No one can reach out to others in the same way you can. No one can speak your words. No one can comfort with your kind of comfort. No one can smile your smile. Let your uniqueness be free to flow out among your family and friends and the people you meet every day.

The gift of yourself was given to you to enjoy, not save. Give yourself away! See the uniqueness around you in each person you meet. See it! Receive it! Let it tickle you! Let it teach you or inspire you or comfort you.

And so, dear, special, irreplaceable person, **RECEIVE THE GIFT OF YOURSELF AND OTHERS.**

Notice the gift. Enjoy it. Celebrate it. And be very, very thankful!

Adapted from a poem written by Dorothy William

Engage: You're a gift to the world

When you gather with family and friends, maybe during a holiday celebration, or even “just because,” take a few moments to share the reasons you’re grateful for one another. Another great idea is to honor a birthday!

This attached sheet can help: Print out one for everyone (or the birthday girl/boy), write a name on each sheet, then pass them around the table so everyone can write one way that person is a **gift to this world**.





(name)

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