

Something's Missing

The scarcity of things usually adds to their value. Numismatics collect rare coins. Philatelists save hard-to-find stamps. My father-in-law went for things like rattlesnake rattles, dog tags, ballpoint pens, and carnival glass. None brought him wealth. Fortunately for me, he did let go of what I cherished the most—his daughter. But it's axiomatic; make something scarce, and item's worth increases.

One thing currently in short supply costs little to give. Despite the low cost, I know many children who are desperate to receive one. Some persons hint to their spouses about it and still never obtain any. I've counseled depressed adults whose mental health would improve if they received one occasionally. Employees tend to work more efficiently upon their periodic receipt of them. Distributing them costs nothing and they take little time to give. Though we long to receive them ourselves, for some reason, we stingily, grudgingly give them to others.

You've probably guessed my subject by now. "I can live two months on a good compliment," said Mark Twain. Our Creator modeled how to give praise. He said of Jesus: **"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased," Matthew 17:5 NIV.**

Compliment your spouse every day. Your marriage will improve. Genuinely praise your family members. You'll have a happier home. Give kudos on the job. You'll enjoy better relationships. When authentically given, compliments even enhance the giver. Let's fill the world with them.

"The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life," Proverbs 15:4 NIV.