

Who are WE? What are WE doing here? Where are WE going?

In Soviet times, an old Rabbi was approached by a young man from the local militia.

“Who are you? What are you doing here? Where are you going?”

The Rabbi responded, “How much do they pay you to ask those questions?”

“Two rubles a day,” was his proud reply.

“Each time you see me, I’ll pay you two rubles if you’ll keep asking me those questions.”

So -- Who are WE? What are WE doing here? Where are we going?

We are gifts...

To the one who fears rejection -- we show acceptance.

To the one who fears inadequacy – we guide step by step as their fears melt away.

To the one who feels disconnected – we build community.

To the one who feels lonely – we listen.

To the one who has experienced failure – day by day we celebrate success.

To the powerless – we give a pen and a voice.

To those who feel defective – we celebrate their uniqueness.

To those who feel worthless – they see reflected in our eyes – they are priceless.

To those who feel abandoned – we help reclaim as treasures.

Who are we? We’re adult educators!

What are we doing here? Making a difference that really matters!!!

Who are we – roots on a tree, quiet and mostly unseen, giving life and nurture.

Who are we – air under the wings of a bird – lifting those who were caged to new heights.

Who are we – gifts – precious gifts of hope, fostering transformation of lives who will never be the same.

Who are we – bridges to expanding opportunities.

Who are we – high touch in a high tech world.

Who are we – God’s instruments – giving “wings to caterpillars”

Who are we – blessed – far beyond what we deserve.

Where are we going? Intentionally pursuing what MATTERS! Helping ourselves and others become more than we ever dreamed we could become!

Adult Basic Skills Professional Development Institute 2016- Gerald Parker