**The Golden Rule**

**Giving = Receiving**

**Cast your bread upon the waters;
for you shall find it after many days.  *(Ecclesiastes 11:1)***

**Judge not, that you may not be judged.
For with the same judgment that you judge, you will be judged,
and with the same measure with which you measure,
it will be measured to you.  *(St. Matthew 7:1-2)***

**Whatever you wish men to do for you,**

**do likewise also to them; for this is the law and the prophets.**

***(St. Matthew 7:12)***

**Be therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.
Judge not, and you will not be judged;
condemn not, and you will not be condemned;
forgive, and you will be forgiven.
Give, and it will be given to you;
Good measure shaken down and running over
they will pour into your robe.
For with the measure that you measure,
it will be measured to you. *(St. Luke 6:36-38)***

**He who sows sparingly shall reap also sparingly;
and he who sows generously shall reap also generously. *(2 Corinthians 9:6)***

**The airline ticket office was crowded with holiday travelers, and its two clerks were having trouble trying to squeeze them into available flight space. Most of the travelers accepted the necessary delay without complaint, but there was one small, strident-voiced man who reacted violently. He loudly criticized the airline's lack of planes, its management, and the clerk's method of working. He demanded immediate accommodations, and snorted when the clerk quietly explained that he would be given the first available seat on a later flight. Fixing the clerk with a stern look, he demanded, “Young man, do you know who I am?” The clerk turned to his coworker. “Joe, here's a man who really needs help,” he said in a tone of concern. “He's forgotten his name.” *(Fred J. Hamm, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

**History’s saloon-hating hatchet lady charged forth to lead the country away from alcohol in the belief her real name - Carry A Nation - was preordained. But the press kept misspelling it “Carrie.” That is said to have infuriated her. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**People who eat alligators outnumber the alligators that eat people. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**1. You always reap what you sow. 2. You always reap later than you sow. 3. You always reap more than you sow. *(Illustration Digest)***

**Nothing is quite so annoying as to have someone go right on talking when you’re interrupting. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**I truly believe that whatever you send into the lives of others, comes back into your own. *(Mary Kay Ash)***

**A baker living in a small village bought his butter from a neighboring farmer. One day he became suspicious that the butter was not of the same weight as it had been at first. For several days he weighed the butter, and concluded that the rolls of butter which the farmer brought were gradually diminishing in weight. This angered the baker so that he had the farmer arrested. “I presume you have weights,” said the judge. “No, sir,” replied the farmer. “How then do you manage to weigh the butter that you sell!” “That’s easily explained,” said the farmer. “When the baker commenced buying his butter from me, I thought I’d get my bread from him, and it’s his one-pound loaf I’ve been using as a weight for the butter I sell. If the weight of the butter is wrong, he has himself to blame.” *(Christian Herald)***

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**In the Eskimo village where I live, the nearest bank is 150 miles away -- by dog sled. Because of this, there is a constant shortage of currency. For convenience, signed personal checks are passed back and forth like money. Once I bought 20 gallons of gas at the village fuel pump and the total came to $61.20. I flipped through my wad of hand-me-down checks and gave the attendant one made out to and signed by a man I’d never heard of. Then I handed her another note from someone whose check would be sure to bounce if it were ever sent to a bank. As change, the attendant gave me a well-worn check, her last quarter and 32 pennies. “Thanks for paying cash,” she said. *(Seth Kantner, in Reader’s Digest)***

**When you need the money most, the bank won’t lend it to you. So complains the citizen. But the banker complains, too, because in a recession, the depositors won’t touch their savings. In a boom, though, they withdraw it, just when a bank most needs it to invest. *(L. M. Boyd)***

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**A small town’s only barber was known for his arrogant, negative attitude. When one of his customers mentioned he’d be going to Rome on vacation and hoped to meet the Pope, the barber’s reaction was typical. “You?” he said. “Meet the Pope? Don’t make me laugh! The Pope sees kings and presidents. What would he want with you?” A month later, the man returned for another haircut. “How was Rome?” asked the barber. “Great! I saw the Pope!” “From St. Peter’s Square, I suppose, with the rest of the crowd,” said the barber. “Yes, but then two guards came up, said the Pope wanted to meet me, and took me right into his private apartment in the Vatican.” “Really?” the barber asked. “What did he say?” “He said, ‘Who gave you that lousy haircut?’” *(Quoted in Chelmsford, Mass, All Saints Church Newsletter)***

**Daughter says to Mom: “Marmaduke barked at the Pattersons’ talking bird and the bird told Marmaduke to be quiet.” *(Brad Anderson, in Marmaduke comic strip)***

**During a trip to Hawaii, the University of Louisville Cardinals basketball team scheduled a practice session in a community center on Maui. When the Cardinals arrived, they discovered that, because of a mix-up, there were no basketballs on hand. As the coaches and players debated what to do, a young man arrived at the gym with an old, heat-up ball. Members of the Louisville contingent explained their predicament and asked if he would lend them his ball or at least share it. He said no. Okay, they asked, would he sell it? The bidding went from $15, to $20, to $30 and finally to $50, but still he declined. Eventually the Cardinals arranged for basketballs to be brought to the gym. Later, as the young man prepared to leave, a member of the Louisville party couldn’t resist telling him he’d been pretty dumb to turn down so much money. “Yeah,” the fellow replied, “but I’m smart enough to take a basketball along when I practice.” *(Sports Illustrated)***

**Here’s Dr. Woo, the vet. She volunteers at the shelter. She says, “It is in giving that we receive. And that’s the best medicine.” *(Patrick McDonnell, in Mutts comic strip)***

**When you betray somebody else, you also betray yourself. *(Isaac Bashevis Singer, Nobel Prize-winning author)***

**Mother Goose: “You’d better beat it! I have a black belt from karate.” Grimm: “I have a brown belt from a mailman.” *(Mike Peters, in Mother Goose & Grimm comic strip)***

**A New York hotel was filled with football fans in town for the Army-Notre Dame game. It was a gray, cold day and many of the fans leaving for the game could be seen with hotel blankets over their arms. The hotel manager, naturally, was worried. The blankets cost $10 apiece (this was some years ago) and heaven only knew how many would be returned. Yet . . . he could hardly stop the guests at the door and retrieve the blankets. Then the manager had an idea. He quickly rounded up all the extra blankets in the hotel and had them stacked by the door. A smiling bellboy handed them to everyone bound for the game. The manager’s inspiration probably saved the hotel hundreds of dollars. Since he had been thoughtful enough to offer the blankets for the comfort of the guests, no one would think of abusing such hospitality. That night almost every blanket was returned. *(Bits & Pieces, May, 1988)***

**What are the odds of this ever happening? During World War II, Americans donated 13.3 million pints of blood in Washington, D.C., and the donor had his life saved by his own blood. Harry Starner, who had been wounded near Tarawa during World War II, looked up from his hospital cot and saw his own name as the donor on the label of the plasma bottle. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 224)***

**You’re aware many a saltwater sporting soul kills countless bluefish for the fun of it. Did you know bluefish likewise kill countless fish just for the fun of it? Jacques Cousteau said so. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Worker: “What do you mean, there isn’t going to be a bonus this year? Don’t you realize this is the season for giving?” Boss: “Oh? And what are you planning to give me?” *(Art & Chip Sansom, in The Born Loser comic strip)***

**I had forgotten how to throw a boomerang, but now it’s all coming back to me. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**A recent book about a multimillionaire written by a disgruntled employee comes to mind. The multimillionaire supposedly dismissed the book’s author with the comment “He was never that important to us anyway.” Perhaps that kind of attitude is why the employee left and wrote a scathing book. *(Laurie Beth Jones, in Jesus, CEO, p. 283)***

**Grandma: “I don’t know why you bought those cowboy boots. You’re not a cowboy. You’ve never been a cowboy.” Grandpa: “When’s the last time you played tennis?” Grandma: “Tennis? I don’t play tennis.” Grandpa: “Aha! And yet there you are wearing tennis shoes!” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**Back in 1958 I returned to Washington, D. C., from a two-year stint in the Navy. As I expected, my old job with NBC radio was waiting for me. What I didn’t expect was a new boss. And for some reason he seemed to be out to get me. Pitted against him at every turn, I held my cool until he rescheduled “Joy Boys,” a comedy show I’d been doing with my friend and associate Eddie Walker. He gave us the worst possible slot on radio, eight-to-midnight. Eddie Walker and I took that terrible time slot, worked ourselves to the bone, and in three years made “Joy Boys” the No. 1 show in Washington. Even more important, I learned that I, too, had been wrong. In all my dealings with my boss, I had aggravated the problem. I knew he didn’t like me, and in response I was barely civil to him and dodged him as much as I could. But one day he invited me to a station party I couldn’t avoid. There I met his fiancee. She was bright, alive and down-to-earth. How could a woman like that care for anybody who didn’t have something to recommend him. Through her I was able to get new insight into my boss’s character. As time went on my attitude changed -- and so did his. In fact, we became good friends. I remained with NBC and eventually became, as I continue to be, the weatherman on the “Today” show. *(Willard Scott, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Six hundred years before Jesus’ Great Ministry, the Buddha in India also taught among his Sayings: “As we sow, so shall we reap.” The Law, unlike the tithe, is not restricted in its Universality. *(Jon Speller, in Seed Money In Action)***

**The bullet that found its mark after 20 years! In 1893 Henry Ziegland, of Honey Grove, Texas, jilted his sweetheart who killed herself. Her brother tried to avenge her by shooting Ziegland but the bullet only grazed his face and buried itself in a tree. The brother, thinking he had killed Ziegland, committed suicide. In 1913, Ziegland was cutting down the tree with the bullet in it - it was a tough job so he used dynamite and the explosion sent the old bullet through Ziegland’s head - killing him. *(Ripley’s Believe It Or Not!: Strange Coincidences, p. 11)***

**I saw a bumper sticker the other day that said, “May God Multiply On You What You Wish For Me!” I’ll tell you something, the man driving that car never realized how true that is. If I hate and resent you, it’s not in you. It’s in me. If I want to poison you and I take a drink of poison, who is going to be hurt? It’s not going to be you. It’s going to be me. And so it is multiplied 100 times in me. *(Christopher Ian Chenoweth)***

**Every student of history knows that during the War of 1812 the British burned the U.S. Capitol and White House. But not every student knows that happened only after Americans burned a British parliament in Canada. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Grandpa says to the cat: “You think you’re pretty smart, burying my eye-glasses in your litter box, don’t you? Well, don’t look so smug, what goes around comes around. You know that catnip mouse you love so much? Guess what I did with it.” Grandma yells from the bathroom: “Earl! Get the plunger! Hurry! Something’s plugging up the toilet and it’s overflowing!” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**Out for a little target practice, a young man was firing his shotgun at a towering saguaro in the Arizona desert. How could he know that the two shots he fired at the cactus would cause a 23-foot section to collapse on him, crushing him to death?” *(Kathy Wolfe, in Tidbits)***

**A motorist driving by a Texas ranch hit and killed a calf that was crossing the road. The driver went to the owner of the calf and explained what had happened, then asked what the animal was worth. “Oh, about $200 today,” said the rancher. “But in six years it would have been worth $900. So $900 is what I’m out.” The motorist sat down and wrote out a check for the rancher. “Here,” he said, “is the check for $900. It is postdated six years, from today.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**In 1428, the fourth Earl of Salisbury became the first man to use the cannon in battle. Unfortunately, he also became the first person to be killed by a cannon. *(Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It’s A Weird World, p. 112)***

**The truth is not always honest. The Captain of a ship once entered in his log, “Mate was drunk today.” When the mate found it out, he pleaded with the Captain to cross it out. He said it was the first time he’d ever been drunk and it wasn’t fair. But the Captain said, “In this log we always write the exact truth.” The next week the mate kept the log. In it he wrote, “The Captain was sober today.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**It was Andrew Carnegie who revealed that the truly great fortunes were not received through the worship of money for money’s sake. He said that there is “no idol more debasing than the worship of money.” Andrew Carnegie gave and received in his lifetime more than $350,000,000. *(Jon Speller, Seed Money In Action)***

**You can make more friends in two months by becoming really interested in other people than you can in two years by trying to get other people interested in you. Which is just another way of saying that the way to make a friend is to be one. *(Dale Carnegie)***

**“I bought you a new, expensive brand of cat food. It’s my way of saying ‘I love you.’” Cat: “I regurgitated on your bed. It’s my way of saying ‘I didn’t much care for it.’” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**Francesco delle Barche invented a giant catapult that could hurl a 3,000-pound missile. During the siege of Zara, Dalmatia, in 1346, he became entangled in the catapult and was hurled into the town. Unbeknown to him, his wife was in the town. He landed on her - and both were killed! *(Ripley’s Believe It Or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 243)***

**GrandmaA friend’s 15-year-old son was chatting on the Internet, and began to exaggerate his accomplishments. He ran into the den and blurted to his father, “Dad, I’m talking to this girl in a chat room. I told her I’m a junior in college and she asked me what my major is. What should I tell her?” “How about journalism?” his father replied, smiling wryly. Moments later, the boy returned and excitedly announced, “I can’t believe it – she’s a swimsuit model!” *(O. McKinney, in Reader’s Digest)***

**A motorist driving by a Texas ranch hit and killed a calf that was crossing the road. The driver went to the owner of the calf and explained what had happened, then asked what the animal was worth. “Oh, about $200 today,” said the rancher. “But in six years it would have been worth $900. So $900 is what I’m out.” The motorist sat down and wrote out a check for the rancher. “Here,” he said, “is the check for $900. It is postdated six years, from today.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

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**Children are the purpose of life. We were once children and someone took care of us. Now it is our turn to care. *(Cree Elder)***

**If we raise healthy children, we don’t have to heal broken adults! *(Gerry Comstock, Unity minister)***

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**Our choir director was preparing us for a concert. He stopped suddenly and said, “I’ve got to tell you that eight years ago I was directing another choir in this anthem, and they made the same mistakes you’re making.” It wasn’t long before a voice from the back called out: “Same director!” *(Ruth Grotjohn, in Reader’s Digest)***

**If you want to get more Christmas cards, just send a bundle to people you don’t know. So states Phillip R. Kunz, a Brigham Young University sociology professor, who mailed 600 cards during a recent holiday season to mid-western families he chose from city directories. Back came 117 cards to the Kunz family -- with letters about home, children and pets. Two “old friends” even asked about accommodations with the Kunz’s during forthcoming holiday trips. *(United Press International)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Winston Churchill exemplified integrity and respect in the face of opposition. During his last year in office, he attended an official ceremony. Several rows behind him two gentlemen began whispering. “That’s Winston Churchill. They say he is getting senile. They say he should step aside and leave the running of the nation to more dynamic and capable men.” When the ceremony was over, Churchill turned to the men and said, “Gentlemen, they also say he is deaf!” *(Barbara Hatcher, in Reader’s Digest)***

**It was the late 1800’s and an important Member of the British Parliament was hurrying through the rain and fog of the bleak Scottish countryside to deliver a crucial speech. Still miles from his destination, his carriage was forced off the road, its wheels plunging axle deep in mud. Try as they might, the horse and driver could not move the carriage. So important was his speech that even the aristocratic Englishman, in his formal attire, gave a hand. But it was no use. The carriage would not budge. A young Scottish farm boy happened to be driving a team of horses past the distraught parliamentarian and volunteered to help pull the carriage loose. After much effort and considerable exertion, the carriage was finally pulled free. When the boy steadfastly refused to take any money for his help or for his clothes which were torn and dirty from the ordeal, the Englishman asked him what he wanted to be when he grew up. “A doctor, sir. I want to be a doctor,” was the reply. The gentleman was so impressed with the boy and so grateful for his kindness that he said, “Well, I want to help.” And surely enough, he kept his word. Through his generosity, he made it possible for the young lad to attend the university. More than fifty years later Winston Churchill became dangerously ill with pneumonia while in Morocco. His life was saved by a new wonder drug called penicillin, which had been discovered a few years earlier by a Scottish-born physician, Sir Alexander Fleming. Fleming was the farm boy who helped the Member of Parliament on that dark and rainy night in Scotland half a century before. The Member of Parliament? None other than Winston Churchill’s father, Randolph. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 88)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Our son, Rob, loved using the saw and hammer, but never seemed to clean up afterward. One day I was in the garage, stepping over the sawdust, and my hand automatically reached for the broom and dustpan. Suddenly, my brain ordered my body to stand still and appraise the situation. Instead of leaving the work area clean, I propped the broom against the workbench with the following note attached: “As ye saw, so shall ye sweep! Love, Mom.” *(Carnita Brandner, in Reader’s Digest)***

**As settlers came to Los Angeles, they found it hot and dry. They brought in water and planted groves of orange trees across the L. A. Basin. “That cooled the climate by several degrees,” says Art Rosenfeld, a physics professor at the University of California at Berkeley. In recent decades the orange groves have been cleared for buildings and blacktop, and the climate is now six degrees hotter. Says Rosenfeld: “Residents each year use up to two gigawatts of electricity to compensate for the extra heat, at an added cost of $2 billion.” *(Lowell Ponte, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Economists say a college education adds thousands of dollars to a man’s income -- which he then spends sending his son to college. *(Earl Wilson, in Publishers-Hall Syndicate)***

**A reader wrote to columnist Mike Royko at the Chicago Tribune: “How long have you been writing a column? A friend told me it is about 25 years, but I don't see how anybody as stupid as you could do it that long. It would be impossible, because you are as dumb as they come.” Royko replied, “Actually, it is more than 30 years. But you have spotted the secret of my longevity. Stupidity. When I write, I never think. Thinking would just slow me down. By the way, you might buy yourself a typewriter and give it a try. Your letter shows considerable promise.” *(Chicago Tribune)***

**The essential dynamic of compassion is summed up in the golden rule, first enunciated by Confucius in about 500 B.C.E.: “Do not do to others as you would not have done to you.” Confucius taught his disciples to get into the habit of shu: “likening to oneself.” They had to look into their own hearts, discover what gave them pain, and then rigorously refrain from inflicting this suffering upon other people. *(Karen Armstrong, in AARP magazine)***

**It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself. *(John P. Webster)***

**David and his brother, Michael, were complete opposites. Michael was a successful businessman while David took seasonal jobs at dude ranches, parks and resorts. Concerned for David’s welfare, Michael tried to entice him with the good life. He would send David photos labeled “My new sound system” or “My...” The campaign ended when Michael received a poster from his brother showing a breathtaking view of Wyoming’s Grand Teton National Park. On the back was David’s message: “My back yard.” *(Nancy Vitavec, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Our new office computer system was down as much as it is was working. My co-worker Cathy decided to stay late one evening to catch up on the work that had accumulated. On her way home, a police officer stopped her for speeding. “What a perfect end to an awful day!” she exclaimed. “Our computer is up, then down--up, then down. I stay late to catch up, and now this!” The officer was unaffected by Cathy’s griping, and he went to his car to prepare a citation. After what seemed an eternity, he returned with her license and registration. As he handed them to her, he smiled and said, “Our computer is down.” *(Joanne Arnston, in Reader’s Digest)***

**He who wishes to secure the good of others has already secured his own. *(Confucius)***

**Be careful what you do! Consequences go on forever. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Curses are like processions. They return to the place from which they came. *(Giovanni Ruffini, Italian writer)***

**Dedication and Covenant: It being understood and agreed that the said Spirit of Truth shall render unto us an equivalent for this dedication, in peace of mind, health of body, wisdom, understanding, love, life and an abundant supply of all things necessary to meet every want without our making any of these things the object of our existence. *(Charles & Myrtle Fillmore, founders of Unity)***

**A lady moving into a strange town called a dentist recommended by a friend. She was the name on his certificate on the wall, and remembered that a tall, handsome boy with the same name had been a member of her high school class some 40 years before. A first glimpse of the dentist revealed a partly bald head, graying hair, and a deeply-lined face, and she decided that he was much too old to have been in her class. She did ask him, though, if he had attended her school. An affirmative answer brought the question: When did you graduate?” “In 1940,” he replied. “Why, you were in my class!” she cried out. The dentist looked at her closely with a blank expression and then asked slowly: “What did you teach?” *(Los Angeles Times Syndicate)***

**The biggest disappointments come to those who get what’s coming to them. *(Farmers’ Almanac)***

**The cost of such perfection was high. Walt Disney had made Snow White for $1.5 million; the bill for Pinocchio soared to $2.6 million. But, as Walt once said, “If the show is good enough, the public will pay us back for it.” *(John Culhane, in Reader’s Digest)***

**On Okinawa, a group of airmen decided to spend the afternoon at the beach. One didn’t wear his swimming trunks, assuming he could change there. When he found no changing facilities, he ducked back in the car to put on his suit. Then he noticed a woman on the beach looking at him intently. She continued to stare as he struggled into his swimsuit. Irritated that his privacy had been invaded, “Do you always watch people while they’re changing clothes?” “Do you always change clothes in other people’s cars?” she retorted. *(David L. Payne, in Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**A doctor who had devoted his life to helping the poor lived over a liquor store in the ghetto section of a large city. In front of the liquor store was a sign reading Dr. Williams Is Upstairs. When he died, he had no relatives and he left no money for his burial. He had never asked for payment from anyone he had ever treated.  Friends and patients scraped enough money together to bury the good doctor, but they had no money for a tombstone. It appeared that his grave was going to be unmarked until someone came up with a wonderful suggestion. They took the sign from in front of the liquor store and nailed it to a post over his grave. It made a lovely epitaph: Dr. Williams Is Upstairs*. (Bits & Pieces)***

**Karel, a friend of mine, arrived on time for her 1 p.m. doctor's appointment and was quickly ushered into an examining room, where she fell asleep. Finally bustling in almost an hour later, the doctor said tartly, “I wish I could take a nap in the middle of the day.” “You can,” Karel replied, opening one eye. “Just make a doctor's appointment.” *(William A. Fulton, in Reader's Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**My friend's husband always teases her about her lack of interest in household chores. One day he came home with a gag gift -- a refrigerator magnet that read “Martha Stewart doesn't live here.” The next day he came home to find the magnet holding up a slip of paper. The note read “Neither does Bob Vila.” *(Renee P. Futrelle, in Reader's Digest)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*After getting into bed, Hagar says to his wife about their dog who wants to go outside: “Why does he always wait until I'm in bed before he tells me he has to go out?" Dog: “Why does he always go to bed before I can tell him I have to go out?” *(Dik Browne, in Hagar The Horrible comic strip)***

**Some years ago a famous artist had a dog that meant more to him than anything in the world. One day the dog broke his leg and the artist was panic-stricken. He ran to the telephone and called an acquaintance, a famous surgeon. “It’s an emergency,” he yelled, “a matter of life and death. Come quick!” The startled surgeon dropped everything and rushed to the home of the artist, expecting the worst. When confronted with the dog, the surgeon, with masterful self-control, said not a word but proceeded to treat the dog with the same skill he would have used on a human being. Weeks passed, the dog got well, yet the artist never received a bill from the surgeon. The longer he waited the more guilty he felt. Surely he had lost the surgeon’s friendship forever. A few days later, therefore, he made his way to the surgeon’s office, intending to pay all that was asked. The surgeon would not accept his check. “You’re a painter, aren’t you?” he asked. “Certainly.” The artist, a good-natured man, was amused by the doctor’s clever idea of revenge. He smiled and started to work at once. But when the job was completed, instead of a coat of white paint, the panels of the surgeon’s cabinet bore two of the artist’s greatest masterpieces, worth thousands of dollars apiece. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Say your dog barks every time your phone rings. Why? Does the ringing hurt those canine ears? Researchers checked this out to learn that it only happened -- in their group sampling, at least -- where somebody jumped up and ran to answer. It wasn’t the ringing but the running. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Dr. Daniel J. Dire, an emergency room physician at Darnall Army Community Hospital in Fort Hood, Texas, has reviewed 2,000 dog bite cases treated at that hospital’s emergency room in the last five years. “I would say only one to two percent of the dog bites we see are what you would call maulings, or major injuries,” in which the victim is repeatedly bitten or chewed on, Dire said. Based on his research, Dire said he is confident 60% to 70% of all dog bite cases are children who provoked the attacks. *(John Accola, in Rocky Mountain News)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*A fellow walking down a street in an Ozark town was accosted by a hillbilly carrying a gun and a jug. “Howdy, stranger,” said the hillbilly. “Have a drink.” “No thanks,” said the fellow. “I don’t care for any.” The hillbilly raised his gun, stuck it in the stranger’s ribs and repeated, “Have a drink.” So the fellow took a pull from the jug, shuddered and handed it back. “Rough, ain’t it?” said the hillbilly. “Now hold the gun on me while I take a swig.” *(W. K. McNeil, in Ozark Mountain Humor)***

**I was having a drink at a local restaurant with my friend Justin when he spotted an attractive woman sitting at the bar. After an hour of gathering his courage, he approached her and asked, “Would you mind if I chatted with you for a while?” She responded by yelling at the top of her lungs, “No, I won't come over to your place tonight!” With everyone in the restaurant staring, Justin crept back to our table, puzzled and humiliated. A few minutes later, the woman walked over to us and apologized. “I'm sorry if I embarrassed you,” she said, “but I'm a graduate student in psychology and I'm studying human reaction to embarrassing situations.” At the top of his lungs Justin responded, “What do you mean two hundred dollars?” *(J. Smodish, in Reader's Digest)***

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**Takes seven seconds for an echo to bounce back in the world’s largest Gothic cathedral, St. John the Divine in New York City. Curiously, the Grand Canyon likewise has a seven-second echo delay. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Human beings by nature seek ecstasy, a word that comes from the Greek ekstasis, meaning “to stand outside” the self. If we do not find ecstasy in religion, we turn to art, music, dance, sex, sports, even drugs. But such rapture can only be temporary. Religious leaders claim that the practice of the golden rule can give us an experience of ecstasy that is deeper and more permanent. If every time we are tempted to speak unkindly of an annoying colleague, sibling, or an enemy country we asked how we would like such a thing said of ourselves, and, as a result of this reflection, desisted, in that moment we would transcend our ego. Living in this way, day by day, hour by hour, moment by moment, we would enjoy a constant, slow-burning ecstasy that leaves the self behind. The late Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel once remarked that when we put ourselves at the opposite pole of ego, we are in the place where God is. *(Karen Armstrong, in AARP magazine)***

**Auschwitz, the Gulag, and the regime of Saddam Hussein show the fearful cruelty to which humanity is prone when all sense of the sacred has been lost. But none of these atrocities could have taken place if people were properly educated in the golden rule. *(Karen Armstrong, in AARP magazine)***

**A hundred times every day, I remind myself that my inner and outer life are based on the labor of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received. *(Albert Einstein, in Living Philosophies)***

**Having overlooked his electric bill, my brother received another from the utility company marked FINAL NOTICE. He immediately made out a check and mailed it in with the bill, which he changed to read FINALLY NOTICED. *(Sharon Cannon, in Reader’s Digest)***

**An American staying at an English hotel asked for the elevator. The concierge was puzzled but then understood, “You mean the lift,” he said. “No," the American replied, “I mean the elevator.” “Over here we call them lifts,” the concierge answered. “Listen here,” said the guest, “someone in American invented the elevator.” “Right you are, sir,” said the concierge politely, “but someone in England invented the language.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**I was having a drink at a local restaurant with my friend Justin when he spotted an attractive woman sitting at the bar. After an hour of gathering his courage, he approached her and asked, “Would you mind if I chatted with you for a while?” She responded by yelling at the top of her lungs, “No, I won't come over to your place tonight!” With everyone in the restaurant staring, Justin crept back to our table, puzzled and humiliated. A few minutes later, the woman walked over to us and apologized. “I'm sorry if I embarrassed you,” she said, “but I'm a graduate student in psychology and I'm studying human reaction to embarrassing situations.” At the top of his lungs Justin responded, “What do you mean two hundred dollars?” *(J. Smodish, in Reader's Digest)***

**Grandma: “Is this from you, Nelson?” Nelson: “Merry Christmas!” Grandma: “Oh, it’s just an empty box.” Nelson: “No, it’s not. It’s full of kisses.” Grandma: “How sweet. Kisses! And a wad of chewing gum.” Nelson: “I was looking for that!” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**The Truth is not always honest. The captain of a ship once entered in his log, “Mate was drunk today.” When the mate found it out, he pleaded with the captain to cross it out. He said it was the first time he’d ever been drunk and it wasn’t fair. But the captain said, “In this log we always write the exact truth.” The next week the mate kept the log. In it he wrote, “The captain was sober today.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Here is a purported to be true story someone found regarding exams at Cambridge University. It seems that during an examination one day a bright young student popped up and asked the proctor to bring him cakes and ale. The following dialog ensued: Proctor: “I beg your pardon?” Student: “Sir, I request that you bring me cakes and ale.” Proctor: “Sorry, no.” Student: “Sir, I really must insist. I request and require that you bring me cakes and ale.” At this point, the student produced a copy of the four hundred year old Laws of Cambridge, written in Latin and still nominally in effect, and pointed to the section which read (rough translated): “Gentlemen sitting examinations may request and require cakes and ale.” Pepsi and hamburgers were judged the modern equivalent, and the student sat there, writing his examination and happily slurping away. Three weeks later, the student was fined five pounds for not wearing a sword to the examination. *(Kathy Wolfe, in Tidbits)***

**An ambitious farmer, unhappy about the yield of his crops, heard of a highly recommended new seed corn. He bought some and produced a crop that was so abundant his astonished neighbors asked him to sell them a portion of the new seed. But the farmer, afraid that he would lose a profitable competitive advantage, refused. The second year the new seed did not produce as good a crop, and when the third-year crop was still worse it dawned upon the farmer that his prize corn was being pollinated by the inferior grade of corn from his neighbors’ fields. *(Ralph L. Woods)***

**A college student walked into his ornithology class and found five birds with bags over their heads so only their feet were visible. “What’s this?” he asked. “It’s an exam,” the professor explained. “Your job is to identify each bird by looking at its feet.” “What a stupid test,” the student retorted. “What’s your name?” the professor demanded. The student pulled up his pant legs and answered, “You tell me.” *(The American Legion Magazine)***

**My advanced-writing professor at Brigham Young University explained to us that the manner in which a question is asked affects the way it is answered. He then attempted to show the class what happens when a question becomes an attack. He asked a member of the BYU fencing team, “Why do you practice an archaic sport of swords and chivalry that died in the Dark Ages?” The student replied, “To become better acquainted with the graces and customs of your generation.” *(Phillip Larson, in Reader’s Digest)***

**James Madison was elected president in 1808 -- and re-elected in 1812, largely because he went along with hawks in Congress who wanted to fight the British for bullying U.S. merchant seamen. In the ensuing war, America invaded Canada and burned the governor's house in York, now Toronto. In retaliation, British invaders rolled up from the Chesapeake Bay and on August 24, 1814, torched the White House. Only the outer shell was saved by a downpour. *(Robert Shnayerson, in Reader's Digest)***

**When someone asked Charles Fillmore, “Will you send me a paper and wait until I can pay for it?” he replied, “It will pay its own way. If you do not feel before the end of the year that it has much more than paid its own way, you need not send us a cent, and you will never be dunned. No bills are ever sent out from this office. If you do not pay your bill freely and gladly, it is evident that you have not had value received, hence you owe us nothing.” *(James Dillet Freeman, in The Story of Unity, p. 116)***

**A man was speeding down the highway, feeling secure in a group of cars all traveling at the same speed. However, as they passed a speed trap, he got nailed with an infrared speed detector and was pulled over. The officer handed him the citation, received his signature and was about to walk away when the man asked, “Officer, I know I was speeding, but I don’t think it’s fair. There were plenty of other cars around me who were going just as fast, so why did I get the ticket?” “Ever go fishing?” the policeman asked the man. “Um, yeah . . .,” the man replied. The officer grinned and added, “did you ever catch all the fish?” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**I was driving to a job interview and running 45 minutes late when I saw a middle-aged woman stranded with a flat tire. My conscience made me stop. I changed her tire and headed to the interview, thinking I could just  forget about getting the job now. But I filled out the job application, nevertheless, and went to the personnel director’s office. Did I get the job? Sure thing. The personnel director hired me on the spot. She was the woman whose tire I had just changed. *(Charles E. Harvey, Jr., in Reader’s Digest)***

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**The flight from Sacramento to Los Angeles was a short one, but I still felt a pang of fear as I sat waiting for takeoff. On impulse, I asked a flight attendant to deliver this note to the cockpit: “Captain, please fly this thing carefully. My mother happens to think you’ve got valuable cargo on board.” A few minutes later the attendant returned, smiling, and handed back my note. On it the captain had penned: “Not to worry! My mother happens to think so too!” *(Jann Fling, in Reader’s Digest)***

**On a flight from New York City to Geneva, Switzerland, I sat next to a passenger who spent most of the time pestering and insulting the flight attendant. Nevertheless, the latter efficiently complied with every request. Suddenly my obnoxious seatmate said, “You’re the dumbest individual I’ve ever come across.” “And you are the most amiable I ever met,” the flight attendant calmly replied. “But it is just possible that we’re both wrong.” *(D.N., in Reader’s Digest)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*People who matter are most aware that everyone else does, too. *(Malcolm S. Forbes)***

**If yousay what you think, don’t expect to hear only what you like. *(Malcolm S. Forbes)***

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**Henry Ford shocked his fellow capitalists by more than doubling the daily wage of most of his workers in 1914, eleven years after he had established his first automobile factory. He knew what he was doing. The buying power of his workers was increased, and their raised consumption stimulated buying elsewhere. Ford called it the “wage motive.” *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 62)***

**Earl Laphrop, inventor of the world’s first forgery-proof machine, was later sent to prison for life for forgery. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 94)***

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**Lloyd C. Douglas, in his book “Forgive Us Our Trespasses,” uses an illustration. He describes a man as owing a debt that he is unable to pay. The debtor says in effect, “I would gladly pay you if I could. But my debt to you is greater than I can possibly pay. I know that you do not need what I owe, and yet I know that it is right that I should pay my debt.” The creditor in turn says, “Very well, if you will cancel the debts that others owe to you I will cancel your debt to me.” *(Ernest C. Wilson, in Progress magazine)***

**Ed McManus, who puts out The Jokesmith, a wonderful source of humor for speakers, speechwriters, comics, and others, not only can come up with a good joke, he can tell lovely, poignant stories. For example, he came back from Puerto Rico not long ago with this story that a priest used in a sermon: A woman is dying of AIDS. A priest is summoned. He attempts to comfort her, but to no avail. “I am lost,” she said. “I have ruined my life and every life around me. Now I’m going painfully to hell. There is no hope for me.” The priest saw a framed picture of a pretty girl on the dresser. “Who is this?” he asked. The woman brightened. “She is my daughter, the one beautiful thing in my life.” “And would you help her if she was in trouble, or made a mistake? Would you forgive her? Would you still love her?” “Of course I would!” cried the woman. “I would do anything for her! Why do you ask such a question?” “Because I want you to know,” said the priest, “that God has a picture of you on His dresser.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

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**The free market is in accordance with the golden rule. We advance ourselves as we help others. The more we help others, the more we receive in return. *(Percy L. Graves)***

**Mahatma Gandhi beseeched his followers to love those who reviled them. When his political rivals taunted him because he refused to call the British enemies, he said, “if we are just to them, we shall receive their support.” *(Leo Rosten, In Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**When my brother started selling 100-pound bags of potatoes at his service station, his new venture angered some of the local grocers. One supermarket owner drove into the gas station and asked, “When did you start selling groceries?” “The same day you started selling anti-freeze,” my brother replied. *(Jerry McGlothen, in Reader’s Digest)***

**There’s a charming story that Thomas Wheeler, CEO of the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, tells on himself. He and his wife were driving along an interstate highway when he noticed that their car was low on gas. Wheeler got off the highway at the next exit and soon found a run-down gas station with just one gas pump. He asked the lone attendant to fill the tank and check the oil, then went for a little walk around the station to stretch his legs. As he was returning to the car, he noticed that the attendant and his wife were engaged in an animated conversation. The conversation stopped as he paid the attendant. But as he was getting back into the car, he saw the attendant wave and heard him say, “It was great talking to you.” As they drove out of the station, Wheeler asked his wife if she knew the man. She readily admitted she did. They had gone to high school together and had dated steadily for about a year. “Boy, were you lucky that I came along,” bragged Wheeler. “If you had married him, you’d be the wife of a gas station attendant instead of the wife of a chief executive officer.” “My dear,” replied his wife, “if I had married him, he’d be the chief executive officer and you’d be the gas station attendant.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**A very pompous admiral prided himself on never changing course. One night in a blinding fog, he saw some lights coming right at him. He flashed the message, “Get out of my way. I’m a battleship.” Came the reply: “You get out of the way. I’m a lighthouse.” *(Claudia Ruster, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

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**In St. Paul, Minnesota, a woman driving a neighbor to the hospital to have a baby was forced to pull over on the side of the road to unexpectedly give birth to her own child, the procedure being aided by the woman who was being driven to the hospital to have a baby. *(Bill Flick, 1993)***

**When you give blood in France you get coffee, a croissant, a ham sandwich and a large mug of wine. *(L. M. Boyd)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**What we are is God’s gift to us. What we become is our gift to God. *(Quoted by Eleanor Powell)***

**It took half a year for word to reach the Atlantic coast that gold had been discovered in California. The discovery was made in 1848, but John Augustus Sutter and James Marshall tried to keep it a secret. It wasn’t until President Polk, in December 1848, announced the discovery that the gold rush of ‘49 began. Neither of the men who started the Gold Rush of ‘49, Sutter and Marshall, discovered any gold worth mentioning, and both died poor men. *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 16 & 18)***

**An avid golfer was 26 over par by the eighth hole, had landed a fleet of golf balls in the water hazard and dug himself into a trench fighting his way out of the rough when the caddy happened to cough during a 12-inch putt. The duffer angrily threw his hands in the air. “You’ve got to be the worst caddy in the world!” he screamed. “I doubt it,” the caddy replied. “That would be too much of a coincidence.” *(The American Legion magazine)***

**James Autrey, in his book For Love and Profit, credits one of his staff members with teaching him a key leadership principle: the presumption of goodwill. He states that he watched her bring calm to warring parties and develop creative solutions to problems between people by opening her meetings with this sentence: “Now, let’s presume that everyone here has goodwill toward each other, and proceed from there.” *(Laurie Beth Jones, in Jesus, CEO, p. 268)***

**Wife: “Ralph, I can't believe you left gum in your shirt pocket again! It went through the wash, and now the shirt is ruined! How could you be so stupid?” Ralph: “I'm stupid? You're the one who married me!” *(Kevin Fagan, in Drabble comic strip)***

**“We’re like buddies,” actor Larry Hagman says of his relationship with his mother, Mary Martin. He remembers the time they were waiting for a cab in Las Vegas en route to a nightclub. A cabby pulled up and yelled, “Hey, J.R., get in! I got room just for you.” Hagman hopped in and, as the cab screeched off, shouted to his mother, “That’s show business!” Later, at the nightclub, Hagman was introduced and received a round of applause. Then Martin was asked to take a bow. The audience gave her a five-minute standing ovation. When she sat down, Martin leaned over to her son and declared, “And that’s show business too!” *(Marvin Scott, in Parade magazine)***

**An itinerant preacher went to a neighboring parish to preach by invitation, taking his young son with him. As they entered the church, he saw a contribution box, and following his good instincts, he deposited a half-dollar. After his sermon was completed and the congregation had departed, the minister-host said, “We are not a very prosperous parish, and all we can pay is what is in the contribution box.” So he opened the box and presented the visitor with the half-dollar, all that had been put in. The visitor thanked him and went his way, if not rejoicing, at least resigned. They walked in silence for a distance, and then the wise young lad said, “Gee, Dad, if you had put more in you would have gotten more out.” Such is the great law of giving. *(Eric Butterworth, in Spiritual Prosperity, p. 179)***

**Robespierre, who urged the application of swift harsh measures under the Reign of Terror during the French Revolution, was himself summarily tried and executed in 1794. *(Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It’s A Weird World)***

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**Help others: someday you'll be one of them*. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**When you help yourself, you help others too, by relieving them of the burden of helping you. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

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**Ernest Hemingway gave to the Shrine of the Virgin in eastern Cuba, where he lived, Nobel Prize money he had won for the novel The Old Man and the Sea. “You don’t,” he said, “ever have a thing until you give it away.” *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 55)***

**Happiness may be had only by helping others to find it. *(Napoleon Hill)***

**In my job as an administrator of a county jail, I was informed one day that a container of “home brew” had been found in one of the jail dormitories. Unable to identify the brew-master, I dispatched a memo. “To the Men of ‘A’ Dorm: Roses are red, violets are blue, nice try guys, but you don’t get the brew.” I thought the matter was closed until I found a response on my desk the next day. “To the Administrator: Roses are red, violets are blue, you found one, we made two!” *(Joe Coco, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Until the hurt is returned to us, from someone whom we adore! *(Nick Kenny, in Collected Poems)***

**An especially self-righteous member of our church was telling the pastor that he was considering not attending church because he felt there were too many hypocrites in the congregation. “That’s okay,” the minister replied. “There’s always room for one more.” *(Matthew B. Turner, in Reader’s Digest)***

**A man got a call from his bank saying his account was overdrawn by $400. “Look up last month’s statement,” he said. “You had a balance of nine hundred dollars,” was the reply. “And the month before that?” “Twelve hundred dollars.” “And the month before that?” “Fifteen hundred.” “Tell me,” the customer concluded, “all those months when I had plenty of money in my account - did I call you?” *(Lee Iacocca, with William Novak)***

**A friend and I were driving to the mall when we came to a bridge under construction. The road narrowed to one lane, with a light at either end. We stopped at the red light on our side, and when it turned green, we started up again. Halfway through, we met another car coming toward us. The driver leaned out his window and shouted, “I don’t back up for idiots!” Putting his car into reverse, my friend called back, “No problem. I do.” *(John P. Rague, in Reader’s Digest)***

**For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. If you push hard on the world, the world pushes back on you. If you touch the world gently, the world will touch you gently in return. *(Paul G. Hewitt, in Conceptual Physics)***

**When the immune system targets its chemical arsenal on these respiratory diseases, it sometimes destroys part of its own tissues in what scientists call an autoimmune response. *(Lowell Ponte, in Reader’s Digest)***

**My husband and I, sitting next to each other on the bed, were having a disagreement in which neither one of us would give an inch. Realizing I was getting nowhere in the argument, I said in frustration, “You’re impossible!” He turned to me and, with a smile, responded, “No, I’m not. I’m next to impossible.” *(Lynn Ann Whinery, in Reader’s Digest)***

**In Brazil, several Indians who had been refused an audience with then-President Eenesto Geisel because they were not wearing ties told the press they would “insist that any government official visiting an Indian village must wear a feathered headdress and body paint.” *(Reuters)***

**As everyone knows the gift of irony is much more poisonous in women than in men, and giving you an example is the story of a recent accidental meeting of two famous actresses on Hollywood Boulevard in the nations film capital. “Gosh, but you’ve aged a lot in the past few years,” the first said to the second. “Isn’t it just too true,” sighed the other. “I would not have recognized you myself if it were not for your hat!” *(C. Kennedy)***

**The Golden Rule is of no use to you whatever unless you realize that it is your move. *(Dr. Frank Crane)***

**Jesus never slammed a door or burned a bridge. He said, “Just knock on the door and I’ll open it.” *(Laurie Beth Jones, in Jesus, CEO, p. 283)***

**It is well, when one is judging a friend, to remember that he is judging you with the same godlike and superior impartiality. *(Arnold Bennett)***

**One of the most difficult things to give away is kindness -- it is usually returned. *(Cort R. Flint)***

**A nurse who cared for a poor writer’s child was paid with a manuscript. Rudyard Kipling told the nurse his manuscript might be worth some money some day. Years later, she decided to take him at his word and sold The Jungle Book for money that allowed her to live in comfort for the rest of her life. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 33)***

**Husband says to wife: “Since you return everything I get you, I’m thinking of giving you a kiss for Christmas.” *(Jonny Hawkins, in The Lutheran Witness)***

**Between classes at Glassboro State College in New Jersey, I was desperately searching for a dryer to finish my laundry. One machine had stopped but was full of clothes. I carefully folded the garments, which belonged to a female. Seeing a chance to meet someone new, I added one of her still-damp sweatshirts to my load. Then I left a note saying she could pick the shirt up at my apartment -- No. 68 -- and suggesting we might go to a movie, or dancing. After class, I found a message on the empty dryer: “Dear No. 68 -- My girlfriend appreciates your help. If you'd like your clothes, you can pick them up at my apartment, No. 32.” *(Phil Cozzolino, in Reader's Digest)***

**Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take nothing that you have received – but only what you have given. *(Jan Karon)***

**Bombay’s encroaching development into formerly wild areas has produced a string of leopard attacks that killed 12 people in June. Authorities in India’s business capital, also known as Mumbai, say they have captured three of the big cats, but their actions have done little to calm suburban residents living near an adjacent wildlife park. Wildlife officers have let loose pigs and rabbits to feed the big cats as attacks on humans continued to rise. Traps are being set outside the preserve, and a low-voltage fence is to be built to prevent the native leopards from leaving the Sanjay Gandhi National Park. *(Steve Newman, in Rocky Mountain News, July 5, 2004)***

**I’m walking to work up Sixth Avenue and it’s a lovely spring day and I see one of those mime performers. So the mime is doing that famous routine where he’s pretending to be trapped in a box. So I stand there and watch the mime pretend to be trapped in a box. And he finishes up, and thank God, he wasn’t really trapped in a box. And I see on the sidewalk there he’s got a little hat for money -- change, tips, donations, contributions. So I went over and I pretend to put a dollar bill in his hat. *(David Letterman)***

**Liberty is the only thing you cannot have unless you are willing to give it to others. *(William Allen White)***

**If you want life’s best, see to it that life gets your best. *(Farmers’ Almanac, 1988)***

**The taxi passenger gasped as the driver ignored a red light. “Not to worry,” said the driver. “My brother does it all the time.” A block later the driver stopped for a green light. “Why stop now?” asked the passenger. “Because my brother might be coming the other way!” *(A. H. Berzen, in Reader's Digest)***

**The laws of cause and effect apply to the political world, as well as to the physical world. A citizen of Springfield, Illinois, once asked Abraham Lincoln what attribute he considered most valuable to the successful politician. Lincoln's reply was thought-provoking, even profound: "To be able to raise a cause which shall produce an effect, and then fight the effect." *(The Wit & Wisdom of Abraham Lincoln, edited by Alex Ayres, p. 38)***

**Little Bighorn Battle: Sitting Bull did not participate, but remained in the hills making medicine, while Crazy Horse took care of Custer. This famous Old West incident was also not an ambush either, but an attack by the soldiers on an Indian encampment. *(Bingo Directories, Inc.)***

**A woman who lived in the suburbs was chatting over the back fence with her neighbor. “We're going to be living in a better neighborhood soon," she remarked brightly. “So are we!" her neighbor replied. “What? Are you moving, too?” asked the first woman. “No,” was the reply. “We're staying here.” *(A. T. Quigg, in Catholic Digest)***

**On a Marietta, GA, church marquee: “The Lord giveth if you worketh.” *(Patricia Patterson, in Reader’s Digest)***

**God will never cease to love His Son, and His Son will never cease to love Him. *(A Course In Miracles)***

**What man says of others will be said of him, and what he wishes for another, he is wishing for himself. *(Florence Scovel Shinn, in The Game Of Life)***

**Bill Marriott, Jr., chairman of Marriott, says “Good customer relations starts with good employee relations.” “Motivate employees, train them, care about them, and make winners of them. At Marriott we know that if we treat our employees correctly, they’ll treat the customers right. And if the customers are treated right, they’ll come back.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Warner Brothers, producers of Casablanca, considered suing the Marx Brothers for running their film A Night in Casablanca. Groucho Marx put a stop to that nonsense by threatening to sue Warners for plagiarizing the name “Brothers.” *(Reader’s Digest)***

**Louis B. Mayer, founder of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, once told about an experience in his childhood. He had a fight with another boy and lost. While his mother was bathing his black-eye, he told her how it was entirely the fault of the other boy that the fight had started. His mother said nothing, but when the bathing was completed, she took Louis to the back door of their home. Nearby were several hills that created a fine echo. She told him to call those hills all the bad names he could think of. He did so and the bad names all came back to him. “Now,” she said, “call out, ‘God bless you.’” He did so and back came “God bless you.” Mayer said he never forgot that lesson. What you give to others you get back from them. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Famous actress Billie Burke, while enjoying an ocean cruise, noticed that a gentleman at the next table was suffering from a bad cold. “I’ll tell you just what to do for it,” she offered. “Go back to your stateroom and drink lots of orange juice. Take five aspirins. Cover yourself with all the blankets you can find. Sweat the cold out. I know just what I am talking about. I am Billie Burke of Hollywood. The man smiled warmly and introduced himself in return. “Thanks,” he said, “I am Dr. Mayo of the Mayo Clinic.” *(Catholic Forester)***

**What we sow or plant in the soil will come back to us in exact kind. It’s impossible to sow corn and get a crop of wheat, but we entirely disregard this law when it comes to mental sowing. *(Orison Swett Marden)***

**I was the operator of our office's telex when we received several messages in French from Nigeria. I had learned a little of the language as a child and managed to send crudely phrased replies. One day a telex arrived from the Nigerian company in perfect English, and I asked them why they had never used English before. The response was: “Because you kept answering in French.” *(Janet Lacasse, in Reader's Digest)***

**A daughter rushed home to her father. “Dad, Bill asked me to marry him.” Father: “How much money does he have?” Daughter: “You men are all alike. He asked the same thing about you.” *(Joe Griffith, in Speaker’s Library of Business, p. 47)***

**A mouse got its revenge against a homeowner who tried to dispose of it in a pile of burning leaves. The blazing creature ran back to the man’s house and set it on fire. Luciano Mares, 81, of Fort Summer, New Mexico, said he caught the mouse inside his house and threw it on the burning leaves. The burning mouse ran to just beneath a window, and the flames spread from there. No person was hurt, but the home was destroyed. *(Associated Press, as it appeared in the Rocky Mountain News, January 9, 2006)***

**David and his brother, Michael, were complete opposites. Michael was a successful businessman while David took seasonal jobs at dude ranches, parks and resorts. Concerned for David’s welfare, Michael tried to entice him with the good life. He would send David photos labeled “My new sound system” or “My...” The campaign ended when Michael received a poster from his brother showing a breathtaking view of Wyoming’s Grand Teton National Park. On the back was David’s message: “My back yard.” *(Nancy Vitavec, in Reader’s Digest)***

**A husband’s constant nagging at his wife led her to separate from him and take their two children with her. He was devastated, but honest feedback from his peers in group counseling showed him that his constant negative comments were the cause of his wife’s leaving. He asked her for a reconciliation and, this time, concentrated on giving her and their children loving comments. He put a new cause into motion and of course was rewarded with a new effect, a positive one this time. The family is now back together. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 94)***

**Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one. *(Charles Sykes)***

**Good will never cease to love His Son, and His Son will never cease to love Him. *(A Course In Miracles)***

**Often, because we think God must be awfully busy, we feel justified in carrying out His justice. We do this so that nobody gets away with a thing. However, we are the ones who never get away with a thing. *(William Earle Cameron, Unity minister)***

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**The result of a bitter argument between them was that Mr. and Mrs. Brown were not speaking to each other. Upon retiring for the night, Brown handed his wife a terse note which read: "Call me at seven in the morning." When he awoke, it was nine. As he piled out of bed he saw a note beside his own: "It's seven. Get up, you bum!" *(Lane Olinghouse, in Quote magazine)***

**A teacher sent a note to parents on the first day of school: “If you promise not to believe everything your child says happens at school, I promise not to believe everything he says happens at home." *(Rocky Mountain News)***

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**Something you get for nothing is usually worth it. *(Farmers’ Almanac)***

**When you get something for nothing, you just haven’t been billed for it yet. *(Franklin P. Jones, in Quote magazine)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Here it is in a nutshell. Like attracts like. It always has and it always will. It is an unbreakable universal law. It is the law of mind action. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 193)***

**Tales of attacks on people come about because when an octopus is molested it will latch on to the closest hard object. If you are trying to catch him, that object will be you. *(Betty Pratt-Johnson, in Reader’s Digest)***

**One of the most ridiculous statements ever made is that one picture is worth a thousand words. As an example, I give you not a thousand words but eleven words, and I ask you to put across this message in a picture: “Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.” *(Richard Powell)***

**The Greek practice of ostracism or banishment was introduced and promoted by the Athenian statesman Clisthenes. According to legend, the first person to be ostracized from Athens was Clisthenes himself. *(Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It’s A Weird World)***

**Think of what others ought to be like, then start being like that yourself. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**One of Paganini’s favorite stunts was to play a whole piece on a single string of the violin, invariably arousing a frenzy of applause. The coachman who took him home after one of these exhibitions, charged him an exorbitant fare. “You are making so much money,” he explained, “there is no reason why I should not ask higher pay for my services.” “All right,” replied Paganini, “I will pay your price but only on condition that you give me a ride in a carriage with a single wheel.” *(Nicholas Slonimsky, HiFi-Stereo)***

**Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must undergo the fatigue of supporting it. *(Thomas Paine)***

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**As a painter and decorator, I pride myself on meticulous work. So I was horrified when, arriving at a job late one day, I found that my young partner had been hanging sheets of expensive wallpaper upside down. But since he had already done half the room, and time was short, we decided to continue the same way. Rather to my surprise, the owner of the house seemed delighted with the finished job. A few weeks later, however, when I received her check, every single word and figure was written upside down. *(E. Brown, in Reader’s Digest)***

**There is an inspired painting by a German artist, Rosenthal, entitled The Blessing of Work. It depicts a young boy carving a life-size picture of the Virgin Mary. The almost-completed figure towers above the young artist, and while he works intently carving the details of the feet, Mary looks down upon him with love and with out-stretched arms, blessing him. While he is giving himself in the creative flow, he is dynamically receiving immeasurably in return. The painting reveals much more: light is streaming through the open window, its rays bathing him with an aura of illumination. On a large plaque on the wall, a heavenly choir is singing paeons of praise directly toward him. By his side, there is what we assume is a picture of his mother which he is using for a model, and with hands clasped in devotion, she is blessing him. Thus the whole tone of the work suggests that the whole Universe is rushing, streaming, pouring into the boy, while he quietly gives himself in creative effort. It is a beautiful visual testimony to Jesus: “Give and you shall receive.” *(Eric Butterworth, Spiritual Prosperity, p. 177)***

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**The fire department in our small town was holding a pancake breakfast to raise money for equipment. Uncle Ebert, a longtime volunteer, asked a local businessman to buy a ticket. “I don’t eat pancakes!” the man told him brusquely. “And we don’t start fires,” Uncle Ebert shot back. The businessman bought two tickets. *(Ray Tegner, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Fortunate parents who have fine children usually have fortunate children who have fine parents. *(Persian proverb)***

**A frustrated minister eased his sedan into a “no-parking” zone in a busy downtown area and carefully attached the following message to his windshield. “I have circled this block 15 times without finding a legal space. I have an important appointment. Forgive us our trespasses.” When the minister returned, he found a parking ticket and a written reply on his own note. It read: “I’ve circled this block for 15 years and if I don’t give you a ticket, I lose my job. Lead us not into temptation.” *(Paula Bern, in Rocky Mountain News)***

**Bert Parks, once the minstrel singer for the Miss America Pageant, likes to tell how he was stopped by a woman who stared for a moment and said, “You know, you look an awful lot like Bert Parks. Are you Bert Park?” Bert replied: “I wouldn’t admit it if I was.” “I wouldn’t admit it either,” said the woman as she walked by. *(Don Freeman, in San Diego Union)***

**A young man once asked God how long a million years was to Him. God replied, “A million years to me is just like a single second in your time.” Then the young man asked God what a million dollars was to Him. God replied, “A million dollars to me is just like a single penny to you.” Then the young man got his courage up and asked: “God, could I have one of your pennies?” God smiled and replied, “Certainly, just a second.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Pesticides banned in this country but sold abroad without restraint by American companies are returning to haunt U. S. citizens in the form of poisonous residues on imported foods. *(Craig Varoga & the Associated Press editors, in It’s A Fact, p. 72)***

**Several neighbors had gathered for dinner, and the conversation turned to pets. Our hostess commented that she had the dumbest dog ever. “Any dog that digs up the same rosebush 20 times has to be pretty dumb,” she said. Everyone seemed to agree, until the 75-year-old grandmother of the neighborhood remarked, “I’m not too surprised at the dog, but I am a little concerned about the person who planted the rosebush that many times.” *(Ruth Maddox, in Reader’s Digest)***

**A photographer was invited to dinner with friends and took along a few pictures to show the hostess. “These are very good!” she said, looking at the photos. “You must have a good camera.” Later, as he was leaving, he said, “That was a really delicious meal! You must have some very good pots.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**My mother often feeds pigeons in the park near her home in Portland, Maine. One day, as she fed the growing flock surrounding her, a man came over to her. “While you’re feeding perfectly good bread to the birds,” he told Mother angrily, “there are people starving in China.” Mother, never one to back down from a fight, looked him in the eye and said, “I’m sorry, but I can’t throw that far!” *(Zina LeTourneau, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Many a pioneer home was cold, so everybody wanted to hold the baby. That was because whoever did got to sit in the warmest spot, such was in front of the fireplace or the kitchen stove. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**He enjoys much who is thankful. A grateful mind is a great mind which eventually attracts to itself great things. *(Plato)***

**As Ziggy is sitting on a bench in the park, the birds come up and say to him: “You bring us popcorn every day, so we thought we'd bring you some worms!” *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**A young priest was injured and robbed by thugs in 1321 and nursed back to health by the prior of the Monastery of Thuet. “When will I ever be able to repay you?” the priest asked. “When you are pope,” the prior replied. Twenty-one years later, the young priest was crowned Pope Clement VI and he appointed the prior Archbishop of Toulouse. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 241)***

**The father in praising his son extols himself. *(Chinese proverb)***

**The preacher was vexed because a certain member of his congregation always went to sleep during the sermon. As the man was snoring in the front row one Sunday, the preacher determined he would fix him once and for all. In a whisper, he asked the congregation, “All who want to go to heaven, please rise.” Everyone got up except the snorer. After whispering, “Be seated,” the minister shouted at the top of his voice, “All those who want to be with the devil, please rise.” Awaking with a start, the sleepy-head jumped to his feet and saw the preacher standing tall and angry in the pulpit. “Well, sir,” he said, “I don’t know what we’re voting on, but it looks like you and me are the only ones for it.” *(Reader’s Digest)***

**To receive a present handsomely and in a right spirit, even when you have none to give in return, is to give one in return. *(Leigh Hunt, in Essays by Leigh Hunt)***

**The best way to forget your own problem is to help someone else solve theirs. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**No particular man is necessary to the state. We may depend on it that, if we provide the country with popular institutions, those institutions will provide it with great men. *(Thomas Babington Macaulay, English historian)***

**A policeman pulled a man over for speeding and asked him to get out of the car. After looking the man over, he said, “Sir, I couldn't help but notice your eyes are bloodshot. Have you been drinking?” The man became indignant and replied, “Officer, I couldn't help but notice your eyes are glazed. Have you been eating doughnuts?” *(The American Legion Magazine)***

**A motorist got caught in one of those new radar traps. He had been driving home one night when the automatic camera identified his car as exceeding the speed limit. Soon after, he received a ticket in the mail, plus a picture of his vehicle with the date and speed recorded on it. Duly impressed, he sent back the ticket, along with a photo of a $100 bill to pay the fine. *(Jimmy Aleck, on “Comic Strip Prime Time,” FOX TV)***

**It is true that other people are a reaction to our action, but that means that our expectations have to be upon our own Self, not them. What we send out is what comes back, so again we are back to the Truth that our own good and happiness reside within our own Self, nowhere else. *(Tom Johnson, in New Thought magazine)***

**He was in a coffee shop. An attractive woman was reading her newspaper. He finally walked over and tried his very best line. “Bond. James Bond.” She looked up, smiled and replied: “Lost. Get lost.” *(The Jokesmith)***

**How can we ever repay all that we owe each other? *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**A man noted for his tact was awakened one morning at four o’clock by his ringing telephone. “Your dog’s barking, and it’s keeping me awake,” said an irate voice. The man thanked the caller and politely asked his name before hanging up. The next morning at four o’clock, he called back his neighbor. “Sir,” he said. “I don’t have a dog.” *(Ruth Meyers, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The bank robber shoved a note across to the teller which read: “Put the money in a bag, sucker, and don’t make a move.” The teller pushed back another note: “Straighten your tie, stupid. They’re taking your picture.” *(Lion, Lions International)***

**Just be glad you’re not getting all the government you’re paying for. *(Will Rogers)***

**It was Julius Rosenwald who revealed that the truly great fortunes were not received through hoarding, but through circulating money -- giving and receiving freely. He said: “I believe that under no circumstances should funds be held in perpetuity.” Julius Rosenwald gave and received in his lifetime more than $60,000,000. *(Jon Speller, in Seed Money In Action, p. 29)***

**Pianist Arthur Rubinstein never signed autographs, but a teenager once confronted him after a concert, held out a pad and pencil and said, “I know your fingers are tired, sir, but mine are, too -- from clapping.” He signed. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**The rush-hour commute to my job in Atlanta is often nerve-racking, so I make it a point to be a careful and considerate motorist. One morning, as I occupied the left lane of Interstate 85, an 18-wheel truck was on my right. As we approached an entrance ramp, a compact car pulled slowly onto the highway and into the path of the truck. I reduced my speed, allowing the truck driver into the left lane ahead of me. After passing the slow-moving car, the trucker moved back into the right lane, and I resumed my speed. My day was made when, in response to a toot of its horn, I glanced back at the truck. The driver was holding a rose against the window. Attached to it was a large placard that read: “This bud’s for you!” *(Marlene Weber, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Mankind has become so much one family that we cannot insure our own prosperity except by insuring that of everyone else. If you wish to be happy yourself, you must resign yourself to seeing others also happy. *(Bertrand Russell)***

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**Just love and they will know you, they will sense it. The same thing holds true with animals, with every part of life. St. Francis and the wolf is a good example. The wolf was vicious, but St. Francis loved and quieted the heart of the wolf. *(Jack E. Addington)***

**When we are at variance with someone, the argument we use enables him to see quite well that we wish to win out; that is why he prepares to resist rather than to recognize the truth. So, by beginning in this way, instead of making some kind of opening in his mind, we usually close the door of his heart. On the other hand, how quickly we may open it by gentleness and courtesy. *(St. Vincent de Paul)***

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**During a sales meeting, the manager was beating all of us on the sales staff for our dismally low sales figures. “I’ve had just about enough of your performance and excuses,” he began. “If you can’t do the job,” he added, “perhaps there are other sales people out there who would jump at a chance to sell the worthy products that each of you has the privilege to represent.” Then, pointing to our newly recruited, retired pro-football players, he said, “If a football team isn’t winning, what happens? The players are replaced – right?” The question hung heavy for a few seconds, but then the ex-football player answered, “Actually, sir, if the whole team was having trouble--we usually got a new coach.” *(Doug Lysen, in Reader’s Digest)***

**When we begin to treat people, individually and in groups, as spiritual beings, saluting the divinity within them, then we will give and receive and do business on the level of love and mutual trust. We will begin to expect far more of ourselves and of others. And we will treat people as if they already were what our faith reveals they can be. *(Eric Butterworth, in Unity magazine)***

**I’ve never seen a company that was able to satisfy its customers which did not also satisfy its employees. Your employees will treat your customers no better than you treat your employees. *(Larry Bossidy, CEO of AlliedSignal Inc.)***

**It is not out of goodness towards others that I am gentle, peace loving, long-suffering and friendly but because in this way I ultimately sustain my deepest self. *(Albert Schweitzer)***

**I don’t know why airline pilots have to tell us every little thing about the route. “I’m taking it up.” “I’m bringing it down.” “I’m making a left by St. Louis, a right by Alabama.” Do I go knock on the cockpit door? “I’m having the peanuts now. Just thought you might like to know.” *(Jerry Seinfeld)***

**A minister, rather noted for his close calculations, also operated a small farm in Vermont. One day he observed his hired man sitting idly by the plow, as his horses took a needed rest. This rather shocked the good man’s sense of economy. After all, he was paying the man 75 cents an hour. So, he said, gently but reproachfully, “John, wouldn’t it be a good plan for you to have a pair of shears and be trimming these bushes while the horses rest?” “That it would,” replied John agreeably. “And might I suggest, your reverence, that you take a peck of potatoes into the pulpit and peel ‘em during the anthem.” *(Woodmen of the World magazine)***

**The young preacher was called to a rural church and appeared for his first sermon that Sunday. To his dismay he found that one of the parishioners had brought his dog to the service. He asked the dog's owner to kindly remove the animal. The man obligingly took the dog out and returned to his seat. After the service, the church deacons rebuked the new preacher for insulting one of their staunchest members. The dog made no trouble, they pointed out, and had been accompanying its master to church for years. The preacher called on the dog's owner and apologized. “Don't worry about it, Reverend,” the man replied. “It all worked out. I wouldn't have had my dog hear that sermon for anything in the world.” *(Sherwood Eliot Wirt, in The Book of Joy)***

**I have faith that the time will eventually come when employees and employers, as well as all mankind, will realize that they serve themselves best when they serve others most. *(B. C. Forbes)***

**People eat more sharks than sharks eat people. *(Boyd’s Curiosity Shop, p. 245)***

**Do not do unto others as you think they should do unto you. Their tastes may not be the same. *(George Bernard Shaw)***

**Shrapnel was invented by Gen. Henry Shrapnel, and he was the first man wounded by his own idea. It happened in a premature explosion at the 1793 evacuation of Dunkirk during the French revolutionary wars. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 94)***

**Hiring people smarter than you proves you’re smarter than they are. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Back when Bernice Vines was better off, she had a chance to give. She thought about the time when her late husband had suffered a stroke and Social Security kept the family afloat, the bills paid and her children fed. Vines figured she should return the favor. She had read that Social Security was short of money, so she wrote two $1,000 checks and sent them to the U. S. government. “I got help when I needed it the most,” the 80-year-old woman said recently. “When they were in trouble, I thought I ought to help, too.” *(Mike Anton, in Rocky Mountain News)***

**Over 10,000 soldiers were killed by sudden avalanches in the Tyrol section of the Alps in one 24-hour period in World War I! Troops had shelled the snowfields above the enemy to start massive slides. Between 1915 and 1918, an estimated 60,000 soldiers died in the freezing Alps! *(Ripley’s Believe It Or Not: Book of Chance)***

**To most people I’m nobody -- but what matters is being somebody to everybody who’s somebody to me. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**If you want something you have never had you have to do something you have never done. *(Mike Murdock)***

**After a spat over her husband’s driving habits, a woman proclaimed, “I’m the only woman alive who would put up with you.” “I’ll have you know,” he said, “that hundreds of women went out with me in my bachelor days.” She turned to him and with a straight face remarked, “I can understand the big turnover.” *(Southeastern Oil Review)***

**A man was speeding down the highway, feeling secure in a group of cars all traveling at the same speed. However, as they passed a speed trap, he got nailed with an infrared speed detector and was pulled over. The officer handed him the citation, received his signature and was about to walk away when the man asked, “Officer, I know I was speeding, but I don’t think it’s fair. There were plenty of other cars around me who were going just as fast, so why did I get the ticket?” “Ever go fishing?” the policeman asked the man. “Um, yeah . . .,” the man replied. The officer grinned and added, “did you ever catch all the fish?” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**Any elected official, Democrat or Republican, has the responsibility to spend the taxpayers’ money as he would his own. *(Douglas Wilder, Governor of Virginia)***

**Stay away! What goes around comes around, faster than you think! *(Todd Siler, in Truizms)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Maxwell White was a rather famous burglar in the Long Island area around the turn of the century. The newspapers made him famous by reporting on his daring thefts. The police were humiliated as he robbed homes of some of the most well known people in that wealthy community. A sort of status became attached to you if your home had been robbed by Maxwell White. After all, he only broke into the very best. Finally, he was caught and sentenced to 99 years in prison. He served 33 years. A few reporters remembered him and were there to interview him when he was paroled. They asked about his various exploits, and then one of them posed the question, “Max, from whom did you steal the most?” After a moment of reflection, the aging bandit replied, “I stole the most from myself.” *(Illustration Digest)***

**Convicted Tyco CEO Dennis Kozlowski, in a letter written 10 years ago, urged that a Tyco assistant controller convicted of fraud receive “the maximum term,” because stealing is “a particularly egregious crime.” Prosecutors may use the letter in their upcoming sentencing recommendation. Kozlowski faces 15 to 30 years in prison for stealing more $150 million from his company. *(The Wall Street Journal, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 15, 2005)***

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**Two workmen watched with awe the performance of a huge steam shovel that took up tons of earth in one bite. Said one of them, “If it wasn’t for that blasted scoop, five hundred of us might be working with shovels.” “Yes,” was the reply of the other, “and if it wasn’t for shovels, a million of us might be working with spoons.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Grandpa: “Those stitches aren’t close enough. Some of the seams look crooked, and that thread’s the wrong color.” Grandma: “Earl! I know what I’m doing! I don’t need your two cents worth!” Grandpa: “Good. Now you know what it feels like sitting next to you when I’m driving the car.” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**I tell doctors in my marketing seminars that if they would send out flowers and get-well cards to their patients, they would not need malpractice insurance. People do not sue someone they feel really cares about them. *(Laurie Beth Jones, in Jesus, CEO, p. 282)***

**A college professor was awarded a grant by a foundation to do scholarly work abroad. She had a problem, however. The grant came in the middle of the school year and she was unsuccessful in getting another professor to finish up the year with her class. The professor came up with a solution. She told her class about the foundation grant and said she would make tape recordings of her remaining lectures and that the recordings would be played during regular class hours. The students could listen to the tapes and make notes. The first class that was held under this arrangement was two days before the professor was to go abroad. When the class had started, the professor decided to check on how things were going. She quietly opened the rear door and peeked inside. She saw and heard her tape recorder on her desk, delivering the lecture. But there were no students in the classroom. On their seats were eighteen tape recorders, duplicating everything being said. It happens all the time: creativity inspires more creativity. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**My friend, who hates to be asked “Who’s calling?” when he places a telephone call, also despises having his call answered with a phone number. But everything fell into place for him one morning. “211-8412,” said a secretary who was guarding her day’s supply of good-morning greetings. “May I speak to Mr. So-and-so?” my friend asked. “May I tell him who’s calling?” asked the secretary. “219-4512,” said the friend. *(Elizabeth Clarkson Zwart, in Des Moines Tribune)***

**Above each workbench on the production line of a television manufacturing plant: “Careful, this may be the one you get.” *(Gene Brown, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**Life is an investment. Our returns are based on our contributions. The interest is compounded by your attention to life, and your sustained giving to life. If we give to life unstintingly, on a sustained on-going basis, we are going to reap proportionate results. Life tends to unfold in the exact pattern of your thoughts about yourself and your thoughts about life, itself. You are the one that calls the shots. “Thou shalt decree a thing and it shall be established unto you.” Your thinking has put the limits on life that you are now experiencing. You supply the material to the loom and the loom produces the fabric of experience. *(Jim Ockley)***

**It is from our thoughts that we systematically draw the people, places, and circumstances into our lives that eventually become our reality. Each thought is a living “brick” that, piled one on another, constructs our future. True, it is action which shapes our material world, but actions are nothing more than three-dimensional thoughts. It is through our thoughts that we give life to our world. To us has been given the power to create and to destroy. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 188)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*As a senior citizens’ function, I watched an older fellow ease his wife ahead of him in line. “You ask for the tickets, dear,” he told her. “You look older than I do.” Seeming to ignore his uncomplimentary remark, she stepped up to the counter. “I’d like two tickets, please,” she said loudly. “One for me and one for my father.” *(Jean L. Schauer, in Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**When I became a licensed chiropractor, I moved back to my hometown and soon had a thriving practice. One morning I saw a new patient whom I recognized as my old high-school principal. “Gee,” I said nervously, “I’m a little surprised to see you here.” “Why?” he replied. “You certainly spent a great deal of time in my office.” *(D. C. Regitz, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Help others and get more done: There is a simple fix for your hectic, time-starved schedule, said Gareth Cook. “Spend more time doing things for other people.” It may sound crazy to add yet another task to your to-do list, but Harvard Business School professor Michael Norton says that how much time you have matters less than “how you feel about what you can get done.” In a series of experiments, he asked participants to devote time to others – by writing to an ill child, for instance – or to do something for themselves. Those who did a good deed consistently “felt like they had more time.” Even those who stayed late to complete tasks of kindness reported feeling less pressed for time later. The reason is rooted in the fact that “people are extraordinarily bad” at estimating how much time and effort a task will take. We frequently overestimate, which heightens stress. Doing something for someone else shows us “that we can get things done,” and makes us feel effective and in control. However busy we are, it turns out, we can break down our own “potent illusions” simply by lending a hand to others. *(The Week magazine, April 13, 2012)***

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**In 1941 the British warship Trinidad was sailing in Arctic waters when a passing German destroyer was spotted. Immediately the crew fired a torpedo, but they neglected to account for what the icy waters would do to its steering mechanism. Speeding through the water at forty knots, the weapon began to curve slowly in an arc. The crew of the Trinidad watched, horrified, as the torpedo continued to curve until it began to head back toward the path of the Trinidad. Within moments of being fired, the torpedo slammed into the ship that had fired it. HMS Trinidad was damaged to such an extent that it never saw action again during the war. *(M. Hirsh Goldberg, in The Blunder Book, p. 130)***

**You cannot train a horse with shouts and expect it to obey a whisper. *(Dagobert D. Runes, Letters to My Son)***

**Trainmen enjoy the reputation of being especially friendly because they usually wave at children along the tracks. Generations ago those trainmen learned that children, if so waved at, do not tend to throw rocks at the train. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Harry Truman, a Senator from Missouri when World War II broke out, went to Gen. George Marshall and volunteered for active duty. Marshall pulled his spectacles down over his nose and, as the story goes, said, “Mr. Senator, how old are you?” “Fifty-six,” Truman replied. “Now, Senator,” said Marshall, “you’ve reached an age where you can render greater service in the Senate than on the battlefield.” “I’m four years younger than you are,” Truman protested. “Yes, but I’m already in,” the general replied. Years later, after Truman became President, the two met again. “Well,” General,” President Truman said to Marshall, “who’s too old for what now?” *(“George Marshall and the American Century,” PBS)***

**The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer someone else up. *(Mark Twain)***

**A clothing store in a mid-western city set aside 200 umbrellas for the use of pedestrians on rainy days. Any person could walk in and ask for one without leaving a deposit. He simply left his name and address. At the end of eight months a count showed: umbrellas on hand, 197; storm casualties, one; stolen by the public, two; new accounts opened, many. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**As soon as Louisiana seceded from the Union in 1861, the Confederacy took over the U. S. Mint in New Orleans, latching onto all its contents, including a nice quantity of gold bullion. Meanwhile, the Union grabbed Robert E. Lee’s place in Arlington, Virginia just across the Potomac from the Capitol. They didn’t give it back either, converting it eventually into Arlington National Cemetery. *(Donner & Eve Paige Spencer, in A Treasury of Trivia, p. 96)***

**Unity firmly believes that if it trusts God and gives good service its needs will be met and it will not constantly have to ask for money or to charge high prices. *(James Dillet Freeman, in The Story of Unity, p. 113)***

**How you use today will determine how tomorrow uses you. *(Quoted by Earl Wilson, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Record at hand shows at least three people have been crushed to death after they saw fit to rock vending machines to vigorously. The machines fell on them. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**“Haven’t I seen your face before?” a judge demanded, looking down at the defendant. “You have, Your Honor,” the man answered, hopefully. “I gave your son violin lessons last winter.” “Ah, yes,” recalled the judge. “Twenty years!” *(Bennett Cerf, in The Life of the Party)***

**A husband and wife were fighting, then stopped talking to each other, communicating only through notes. As they got ready for bed, the husband put a note next to his wife’s pillow that read, “Wake me up at six o’clock.” The next morning he jumped out of bed and, much to his alarm, saw it was already eight o’clock. His wife was gone, but next to his pillow was a note which read, “Wake up, it’s 6:00.” *(Tom R. Kovach, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

**On a stormy night, many years ago, an elderly man and his wife entered the lobby of a small hotel in Philadelphia. “All the big hotels are filled up,” said the man. “Could you possibly give us a room here?’ The clerk explained that there were three conventions in town, and that there were no rooms to be had anywhere. “All our rooms are filled, too,” he said, “still I simply can’t send a nice couple like you out in the rain at one o’clock in the morning. Would you perhaps he willing to sleep in my room?” The couple replied that they couldn’t do that, but the clerk insisted. “Don’t worry about me; I’ll make out just fine,” he told them. Next morning, as he paid his bill, the elderly man said to the clerk, “You are the kind of manager who should be the boss of the best hotel in the United States. Maybe someday I’ll build one for you.” The clerk looked at the man and his wife and smiled. The three had a good laugh over the old man’s little joke, and then the clerk helped them with their bags to the street. Two years passed and the clerk had nearly forgotten the incident when he received a letter from the man. It recalled that night and enclosed a round trip ticket to New York, asking the young man to pay them a visit. When he reached New York the old man led him to the corner of Fifth Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street and pointed to a great new building there, a palace of reddish stone, with turrets and watchtowers, like a castle from fairyland thrusting up into the sky. “That,” said the elderly man, “is the hotel I have just built for you to manage.” “You must be joking,” the young man said, not quite knowing whether to believe his friend or not. “I most assuredly am not,” said the other man, a sly smile playing around his mouth. “Who – who are you?” stammered the other. “My name is William Waldorf Astor.” The hotel was the original Waldorf-Astoria and the young clerk, who became its first manager, was George C. Boldt. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**As a painter and decorator, I pride myself on meticulous work. So I was horrified when, arriving at a job late one day, I found that my young partner had been hanging sheets of expensive wallpaper upside down. But since he had already done half the room, and time was short, we decided to continue the same way. Rather to my surprise, the owner of the house seemed delighted with the finished job. A few weeks later, however, when I received her check, every single word and figure was written upside down. *(E. Brown, in Reader’s Digest)***

**can’t hold a man down without staying down with him. *(Booker T. Washington)***

**“I’m ashamed of you,” the father said to his lazy son. “You don’t even have a job. Why, when George Washington was your age, he was working hard in the wilderness as a surveyor.” “Yes,” said the boy. “And when he was your age, he was President of the United States.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Lars: “I notice you watch a lot of home improvement shows, yet I never see you doing any home improvements.” Man: “I also watch a lot of medical shows, yet you never see me performing open-heart surgery.” *(J. C. Duffy, in The Fusco Brothers comic strip)***

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**My retired husband, Jim, has been attending a beginning watercolors class. During one session the instructor asked everyone what they planned to do with their paintings when they were finished. Virtually all of the students were undecided, but Jim knew exactly what he would do with his. “I’m going to send them to my children,” he said with a smile, “to put on their refrigerators.” *(Beverly D. Lee, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**Don’t complain about the weather. It will find a way to get even. *(Doug Larson, United Feature Syndicate)***

**Caution to newly-promoted executives - remember what the mama whale told the baby whale: “When you get to the top and start letting off steam, that’s the time you’re apt to be harpooned.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Edward Gross tells the classic story of an exchange between two writers, one of whom has just finished writing a book and is basking in the compliments of her peers. The second writer, nose more than a little out of joint, walks up and says, “I like your book. Who wrote it for you?” “I’m glad you like it,” she replies. “Who read it to you?” *(Sue Browder, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**Georgiana Tree West gave a good illustration of how when we think we are getting something for nothing, we are self-deceived, how sometime, somewhere, we pay for everything we receive: A woman with numerous relatives loved to travel and boasted that she never paid a hotel bill in a city where she had relatives. “What are relatives good for if you can’t use them?” she often heard to say. Her method was to descend upon them bag and baggage, taking it for granted they would be glad to see her. She would often time chuckle over the fact that she was never called upon to return their hospitality because she lived in a single room in a hotel. The amount of money she saved on hotel bills in her travels was one of her favorite topics of conversation. But another frequent topic was the way people always tried to take advantage of her financially. She always had to pay top price for everything; sales people always overcharged her. Even fate seemed to be against her, for if she went downtown and purchased a dress for $35.00, that same dress would be put on sale the very next day for $22.50. Of course she was both astonished and indignant when told that she was violating God’s law of compensation, which required that we give generously for all that we receive. It was a new and not very welcome idea that there was a connection between the way she treated her relatives and the way other people treated her. *(A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 89)***

**“Why did God make women so beautiful and yet so dumb?” asked George of his wife. “Well,” replied the wife, “He made us beautiful so you would love us and dumb so we would love you.” *(Herm Albright)***

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**After a long day on the course, the exasperated golfer said to his caddy, “You must be the worst caddy in the world.” To which the caddy responded: “That would be too much of a coincidence.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**The worst defense against a menacing yellow-jacket wasp may be the squashing body blow. It could incite nearby wasps into frenzied attack. Entomologist Peter J. Landolt and chemist Robert R. Heath of the USDA’s research station in Gainesville, Fla., have discovered a chemical “alarm pheromone” in the venom of Southern yellow jackets. “If you smash a wasp,” says Landolt, “its venom sac breaks and the pheromone goes into the air. This can provoke guard wasps to attack from nearby nests.” *(New York Times)***

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