**Unforgiveness**

**Resentment kills a fool,**

**and envy slays the simple.**

***(Job 5:2)***

**It doesn’t take a very big person to carry a grudge. *(Country magazine)***

**No buddy ever forgets where he buried a hatchet. *(Kin Hubbard)***

**There’s no point in burying a hatchet if you’re going to put up a marker on the site. *(Sydney Harris)***

**When our pastor had to be away one Sunday, my husband, Warren, volunteered to lead the service. Just before he began, a parishioner asked that Charlie R’s name be added to the prayer list. Charlie had been gored by his bull. Warren began, “We have been asked to pray for Charlie R, who is in the hospital because his bull gored him.” Unable to leave it at that, he went on, “Knowing Charlie, after he gets discharged, we’re going to have to add the bull to the prayer list.” *(Linnea Dorau, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Rules for the proper use of chopsticks are many. Improper use includes wandering the chopsticks over several foods without decision, and is called mayoibashi. The unforgivable act of licking the ends of chopsticks is called neburibashi. Lack of chopstick etiquette is strictly taboo. *(Absolute Trivia)***

**He who cannot forgive others destroys the bridge over which he himself must pass. *(George Herbert)***

**Ethel: “I told Willy I was fed up with his dopiness. He packed his things, walked out that door, and that's the last I've seen of him!” Friend: “Would you forgive him if he came back?” Ethel: “I don't think so, that's a closet.” *(Joe Martin, in Willy 'N' Ethel comic strip)***

**Harboring unforgiveness and resentment in our hearts does not hurt others. It hurts us. It eats away at the soul, filling it with bitterness and blocking the free flow of God’s love, which is the essence of our true nature. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 249)***

**Carrying a grudge can be hazardous to your health. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**On the eve of my wedding, my mother gave me some advice regarding husbands. “Always stick up for him,” she said. “Don't discuss important matters before dinner, and lastly, never tell me about your arguments.” “Why shouldn't I tell you about our arguments?” I asked. “Because you may forgive him,” she said solemnly, “but I never will.” *(Kate Henderson, in Reader's Digest)***

**A woman sees a beautiful tennis bracelet in a jewelry store but notices that it’s very expensive. “If I give you a deposit,” she asks the clerk, “can you hold it for me until my husband does something unforgivable?” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**Resentment is like drinking poison and hoping it will kill your enemies. *(Nelson Mandela)***

**Resentment may have its place, too, at times. But as we grow with understanding we learn that these things are never properly directed toward people because people aren’t causes. And then gradually we see there’s no point in kicking the rug or blaming the rock if we stumble over it or the tomato if somebody threw it because consciousness directs them all. *(Ervin Seale)***

**Resentment is like taking poison and waiting for the other person to die. *(Malachy McCourt, author)***

**When I refuse to forgive, I am burning a bridge that someday I will need to pass over. *(Josh McDowell)***

**Not forgiving is like drinking rat poison and then waiting for the rat to die. *(Anne Lamott, novelist)***

**Remember, you belong to the thing with which you are linked in thought, and at some time or other, if that tie endures, the object of your resentment will be drawn again into your life, perhaps to work further havoc. *(Emmet Fox, in The Sermon on the Mount, p. 189)***

**When you hold resentment toward another, you are bound to that person or condition by an emotional link that is stronger than steel. Forgiveness is the only way to dissolve that link and get free. The person who forgives will find a divine solution appearing. The forgiving state of mind is a magnetic power for attracting good. No good thing can be withheld from the forgiving state of mind. *(Catherine Ponder)***

**My tennis opponent beat me with a fantastic shot. Instead of just complementing him, I gave him a friendly warning. Pointing my finger, I said, “I hold a grudge for a long time before I get even.” Replied my opponent, “The way you play, you’d have to.” *(Gene Perret, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Colonel George Washington of the Virginia Militia was denied a commission in the regular British army in 1754. He resigned his militia commission and became a Virginia planter at Mount Vernon. His resentment of the British over this rejection helped lose George III his colonies. (Isaac Asimov's Book of Facts, p. 259)**

**For that worn out feeling carry a grudge all day. *(Graffiti)***

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