# Surrender

**No man puts a new patch on an old garment,**

**so as not to weaken that garment and make the hole larger.**

**Neither do they pour new wine into worn-out skins**

**so as to rend the skins and spill the wine,**

**and the wine runs out and the skins are ruined;**

**but they pour new wine into new skins,**

**and both of them are well preserved.  *(St. Matthew 9: 16-17)***

**Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me,**

**for I am gentle and meek in my heart,**

**and you will find rest for your souls.**

**For my yoke is pleasant and my burden is light.   
*(St. Matthew 11:29-30)***

**When an unclean spirit goes out of a man,**

**it travels in places where there is no water and seeks rest,**

**and does not find it.**

**Then it says, I will return to my own house from whence I came;**

**so it comes back and finds it empty, warm, and well nourished.**

**Then it goes away and brings with it se en other spirits worse than itself, and they enter and live in him;**

**and the end of that man becomes worse than at first.**

***(St. Matthew 12: 43)***

**And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters**

**or father or mother or children or fields for my sake**

**will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.**

***(St. Matthew 19:29)***

**Let it be, not as I will, but as thou wilt.**

***(St. Matthew 26:39)***

**As Jesus sat near the temple treasury,   
he watched the people as they dropped in their money.   
Many rich men dropped in a lot of money;   
then a poor widow came along   
and dropped in two little copper coins, worth about a penny.   
He called his disciples together and said to them,   
I tell you that this poor widow put more   
in the offering box than all the others.   
For the others put in what   
they had to spare of their riches;   
but she, poor as she is, put in all she had --   
she gave all she had to live on. *(St. Mark 12: 41-44)***

**Jesus said to them, Loose him and let him go.**

***(St. John 11:44)***

**When our days there were ended,**

**we left and proceeded on our journey;**

**and all of them, with wives and children,**

**escorted us outside the city.**

**There we knelt down on the beach and prayed**

**and said farewell to one another.**

***(Acts 21:5-6)***

**Cast all your cares upon God, for he cares for you.**

**(*1 Peter 5:7*)**

**When we let go of the activities that do not belong to us, our real self shines. *(Alan Cohen)***

**Affirmation: “I turn my life over to You, God. As I surrender myself to You, I feel enfolded in peace and comfort. I know that You are making the crooked places straight and that everything is going to be okay. Thank you, God, for Your perfection as it moves through me now.” *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 170)***

**Am told it’s no trick for an albatross to glide six days without moving its wings. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**When an issue comes to the surface, and you know that you don’t want it there anymore, don’t attack it. Love yourself for its existence in you. Allow it to be there in you, and in the allowing, you can let it go. *(Carol Ruth Knox, in The Incredible Journey, p. 102)***

**The Battle of Saratoga was one of the decisive victories of the American Revolution. When it was over, and British General Burgoyne had given his sword to General Gates, the officers of the two armies sat down together for dinner and plenty of rum and hard cider. *(Christopher Matthews, in Reader’s Digest)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*  
As I walked closer to the glassed entrance, I saw that Sarah had caught sight of a yellow butterfly. She was making an attempt to chase it, but her robe kept tripping her and her wings weighed her down. I could tell she was getting disgusted with her outfit, because she was not able to keep up with the butterfly. The next moment I saw halo, wings, and robe being shed and tossed onto the ground. And Sarah, well, she was dashing across another yard, almost touching the butterfly. Her eyes were alive with delight, as if she had found treasured gold. And then Sarah’s words came to me. “Angel clothes get in the way.” By forgetting about the costume, the garment that encased her curiosity, she had discovered the secret home of a salamander, something special she wanted to learn. By tossing off the robe, wings, and halo -- getting rid of all the things that got in her way to experience life to the fullest -- she caught the joy of the butterfly. *(Jan DeVries, in Unity magazine)***

**Angels have wings because they take themselves so lightly. *(Trish Robinson)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Some animals have developed a code of honor when fighting. Among lions, the vanquished rolls on his back and is not attacked further. The wolf exposes his throat, as his most vulnerable spot, to the victor, which turns away without taking advantage of the surrender. *(Joy Adamson, McCall’s)***

**Recently a friend and I were discussing prayer. “It seems to me,” I said, “that the word ‘release’ is one of the most important components of answered prayer. When I pray and then release the prayer to the divine Power, results follow, often very quickly. When I think about it constantly, and pray about it often, results seem to be delayed." “Give me an example,” my friend suggested. “For instance,” I explained. “When you plant a row of carrot seeds, you follow directions, cover them up, relax, and in due time you have a row of carrots. If you keep digging them up to see if they have sprouted, guess what? You will be going to the store to buy carrots. Oh, you may be able to find a few twisted little carrots where you hoped to find lots of fine, firm, crispy carrots. But, alas, your impatience or lack of faith in Mother Nature resulted in this failure.” *(Dr. Delia Sellers, in Abundant Living newsletter)***

**How can bugs hibernate in winter without freezing? Some insects can drain their bodies of water. Bloodstreams of others contain 50 percent glycerol, a natural antifreeze. *(L. M. Boyd)*  
The famous Red Delicious was discovered in 1872 by Jesse Hiatt of Peru, Iowa. Growing unwanted among other trees, it was cut down twice. Each time it grew back with renewed vigor, and Hiatt finally let it produce “delicious apples.” *(Jack Denton Scott, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The archer strikes the target, partly by pulling, partly by letting go. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**While camping in Texas, my family and I fished for crabs in the Sabine River. Watching the locals, we used chicken necks on string for bait. Suddenly an alligator started drifting downriver toward us. I anxiously asked a Texan nearby what to do if the alligator wanted the stash of chicken necks. “Ma-am,” he said with a straight face, “we generally just let ‘em have it.” *(Kathy Huntley, in Reader’s Digest)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**There are thousands of kinds of bees, but only a few kinds store honey. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Male bees, or drones, have only one job – to mate with the queen. Those lucky enough to do so die in the act. *(Harry Bright & Harlan Briscoe, in So, Now You Know, p. 46)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**We are beginning to realize release. I say, beginning, because I believe that it will take eternity to realize the richness of divine being. *(Nona L. Brooks, in In The Light of Healing)***

**In entering upon this course of instruction, each of you should, so far as possible, lay aside, for the time being, all previous theories and beliefs. By so doing you will be saved the trouble of trying, all the way through the course, to put “new wine into old wine-skins.” (St. Luke 5:37). If there is anything, as we proceed, which you do not understand or agree with, just let it lie passively in your mind until you have read the entire book, for many statements that would at first arouse antagonism and discussion will be clear and easily accepted a little farther on. After the course is completed, if you wish to return to your old beliefs and ways of living, you are at perfect liberty to do so. But, for the time being, be willing to become as a little child; for, said the Master, in spiritual things, “Except ye become as little children, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven.” (St. Matthew 18:3). If at times there seems to be repetition, please remember that these are lessons, not lectures. *(H. Emilie Cady, in Lessons in Truth, p. 5)***

**Then there was seven-year-old Susie, whose problem was simply that the braided string belt had been pulled out of her pajama bottoms. “How on earth,” she wondered, “can I ever thread it back through again?” She put the problem out of her conscious mind. A short time later, as she was getting an ice cube out of the freezer, an idea suddenly hit her. She could wet the belt, freeze it in a circle, then guide it through the pajama opening. It worked! (David Lynch, in Reader's Digest))**

**The best thing to do with the best things in life is to give them up. *(Dorothy Day, American social activist)***

**Always perform your duty efficiently and without attachment to the results, because by doing work without attachment one attains the Supreme. *(Bhagavad Gita)***

**Frigate birds sleep on the wing. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Syndicated columnist Erma Bombeck once wrote a piece that likened children to kites. “You spend a lifetime trying to get them off the ground. You run with them until you’re both breathless. They crash. They hit the rooftop. You patch and comfort, adjust and teach. You watch them lifted by the wind and assure them that someday they’ll fly/ Finally they are airborne. They need more string and you keep letting it out. But with each twist of the ball of twine, there is a sadness that goes with joy. The kite becomes more distant, and you know it won’t be long before that beautiful creature will snap the lifeline that binds you two together and will soar as it is meant to soar, free and alone. Only then do you know that you did your job.” *(Dr. Delia Sellers, in Abundant Living magazine)***

**As children bring their broken toys with tears for us to mend, I brought my broken dreams to God because He is my friend. But then, instead of leaving Him in peace to work alone, I hung around and tried to help with ways that were my own. At last I snatched them back and cried, “How can you be so slow?” “My child,” He said. “What could I do . . . you never did let go.” *(Lauretta P. Burns)***

**A. G. Edwards & Son operates with a small-town family feeling. Howard R. Posner left E. F. Hutton’s New York office to head the syndication department of Edwards. He recalled that five months after he joined the firm, he lunched with Ben Edwards for forty minutes. He said, “Business never came up once.” *(Joe Griffith, in Speaker’s Library of Business, p. 101)***

**Letting go doesn’t mean giving up. Surrendering is not quitting. As soon as you know you can’t start your car, you admit helplessness. However, that’s only the beginning of the solution. If you want to get your car going again, you call a mechanic, and when the mechanic comes, you cooperate to the extent that you can. You haven’t quit. Instead of quitting, you have merely given a “higher power’ (one who knows more about the problem than you do) control of the solution. There is a vast difference between surrendering and quitting. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 166)***

**A falling cat tenses up at first but then senses, somehow, when it gets to peak velocity. Then it relaxes and spreads its legs. That’s why a cat is more likely to survive a 20-story fall than a 10-story fall. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Let us realize that engagement and detachment aren’t opposite – the more engaged we become, the more detached we will have to be. *(Dr. Deepak Chopra)***

**“My dad never throws anything out,” says comedian Jonathan Katz. “He has coffee in his apartment that’s pre-Colombian.” *(“Comic Strip Live,” Fox TV)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**No matter how brilliant or original you are, if you monopolize a conversation, the minds of others will wander. Hold the conversation ball briefly. Then toss it. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**It’s all right to hold a conversation as long as you let go of it once in a while. *(Bits & Pieces)*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*  
The creative process is a process of surrender, not control. *(Julia Cameron, artist/writer)***

**I seize the big days, but I turn the little ones loose! *(Pat Brady, in Rose Is Rose comic strip)***

**Last week I was watching the puppies scrapping together to establish dominance. When the larger one definitely proved to be top dog, the small scrapper rolled over onto its back, exposing its tender, pink belly. Laying there with its most vulnerable area exposed, the smaller dog trusted the larger one to honor his gesture of total surrender, which the larger one did. Ah-ha! There is a lesson here for me, I thought! *(Loretta Magnowski)***

**In her humorous short story, “The Dream Diet,” author Susan Dyer quotes the following list of ambitions of women: To grow up, to fill out, to slim down, to hold it in, and to hell with it. *(Redbook)***

**Judges have fined a 50-year-old Italian driver for dangerous driving after he handed the controls of his car over to God. A judge heard how the man let go of his steering wheel and cried, “God, can you drive?” The man’s car ended up in a ditch, and his lawyer cited “religious dilemma” as the reason for the bizarre action. The man could have been acquitted, but the prosecution lawyer correctly pointed out that “God is not a legally insured driver and has never passed an official test.” *(From a Munich newspaper, as it appeared in the Interfaith Council of Boulder newsletter in 1998)***

**Two eagles mate for life, true. But when one dies, the survivor certainly doesn’t go into mourning. It finds a new partner before the next season. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**The best and noblest way in which thou mayest come into this life is by keeping silence and letting God work and speak. *(Meister Eckhart)***

**God is ready to give great things when we are ready to give up everything. *(Meister Eckhart)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Remember when Ford produced the Edsel. It was a major failure. All premarket research indicated that the Edsel would be well received, but the public didn’t buy it. Ford quickly dropped the Edsel and thereby cut their losses short. Had management’s ego been so big they didn’t want to admit their mistake, the Edsel could have stayed on the market and could have eventually made Ford Motor Company the failure and not just a product. *(Joe Griffith, in Speaker’s Library of Business, p. 305)***

**Eels: The living ribbons are carried northward by the currents of the Gulf Stream. They have as much control over their destiny as thistledown on the wind, for they cannot propel themselves. *(Jean George, in The Living World of Nature, p. 64)***

**Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could; some blunders and absurdities crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; you shall begin it serenely and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense. *(Ralph Waldo Emerson)***

**When you exhale, you get rid of about 15 percent of the air in your lungs. When a whale exhales, it gets rid of 90 percent. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Surrender is not just a decision to let go, it is an experience of ‘let go’.**

***(Jacquelyn Small)***

**Faith does not come from striving; it comes from surrender. *(Bill Johnson, in Experience the Impossible)***

**Fame comes usually to those who are thinking about something else. *(Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.)***

**As a child, Elizabeth Thaxter Hubbard spent a summer with her family at a hotel in Kittery, Maine. “There was an English family there,” she wrote, “and as the Fourth of July approached, I asked one of the children if they were going to have some firecrackers as we were. ‘Oh, no!’ she said. ‘You won, you know.’” *(Harvard Magazine)***

**It is one thing to touch a flame and know it is hot, but quite another to jump into that flame and be consumed by it. *(Advashanti)***

**Flying squirrels, flying fish and even those flying lizards of Indonesia don’t fly. They all glide. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**People who never get carried away, should be. *(Malcolm S. Forbes, American publisher)***

**Let your children go if you want to keep them. *(Malcolm S. Forbes)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**When I can’t handle events, I let them handle themselves. *(Henry Ford) 1115908***

**The thought came to me that I make room in my life for this new good by forgiving. I do it by releasing, letting go, and forgiving. So I started writing down whatever came to me to forgive. I was specific. I freed my own consciousness--the rooms of my mind, the inn within--to receive God’s blessing in my life. I set myself free to let the Christ enter in. *(David Williamson, in Unity magazine)***

**He who cannot rest cannot work; he who cannot let go cannot hold on. *(Harry Emerson Fosdick)***

**To get the best gas mileage, an expert suggests, don’t drive around with a trunk full of junk. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**“The man who started the PC revolution has decided to walk away,” said Jay Greene and Steve Hamm in Businessweek.com. Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft and the world’s richest man, announced last week that he would step down as the tech giant’s chief software architect in 2008, ceding that job to chief technical officer Ray Ozzie. Instead of tweaking the next versions of Windows and Office, Gates will shift his focus to eliminating diseases in the underdeveloped world through the $29 billion Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. *(The Week magazine, June 30, 2006)***

**John Burgoyne, a British general in the Revolutionary War, packed a lot of luggage. For example, into the Battle of Saratoga he packed 30 cartloads of personal possessions. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**One doesn’t discover new lands without consenting to lose sight of the shore for a very long time. *(Andre Gide)***

**Boy: “I need a hot chocolate straight up, extra whipped.” Waiter: “Tough day?” Boy: “You could say that. I can’t even get the time of day from Erin. She’s this girl in my class. I pulled her hair and hit her with spitballs. I even tried pulling the chair out from under her. I’m running out of options. Waiter: “Maybe it’s not meant to be.” Boy: “Tomorrow I’ll put gum in her hair. But then I’ve just got to move on. *(Darrin Bell & Theron Heir, in Rudy Park comic strip)***

**Giving away baby clothes and furniture is a major cause of pregnancy. *(Quoted by James Dent in Charleston, West Virginia, Gazette)***

The goal is not to reach something, even to reach for something. It is letting go of the very desire to reach. (Dr. Eric Butterworth, Unity Minister)

**Sam Goldwyn’s secretary was cleaning out file cabinets. She asked Goldwyn if she could destroy files that had been inactive for more than ten years.  He said, “Go ahead, but make sure you keep copies.” *(Joe Griffith, in Speaker’s Library of Business, p. 241)***

**A man fell off a cliff, but managed to grab a tree limb on the way down. The following conversation ensued: “Is anyone up there?” “I am here. I am the Lord. Do you believe in me?” “Yes, Lord, I believe. I really believe, but I can’t hang on much longer.” “That’s all right, if you really believe you have nothing to worry about. I will save you. Just let go of the branch.” A moment of pause, then: “Is anyone else up there?” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**A little child playing one day with a very valuable vase put his hand into it and could not withdraw it. His father, too, tried his best, but all in vain. They were thinking of breaking the vase when the father said, “Now, my son, make one more try. Open your hand and hold your fingers out straight as you see me doing, and then pull.” To their astonishment the little fellow said, “O no, father. I couldn’t put my fingers out like that, because if I did I would drop my penny. Smile, if you will – but thousands of us are like that little boy, so busy holding on to the world’s worthless penny that we cannot accept liberation. I beg you to drop that trifle in your heart. Surrender! Let go, and let God have His way in your life. *(Rev. Billy Graham)***

**If a mama grizzly bear hibernates from the first heavy snow until spring, yet gives birth in January, what does the cub do during those two or three more months as mother snoozes? Nurses mostly. And naps. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The hardest thing in life is letting go of what you thought was real. *(Author unknown)***

**You never know you’re hooked until you decide that you’re not going to do something anymore. *(William Duffy)***

**I believe that if we relax and let go enough, extraordinary things begin to happen. I suppose you’d call it spiritual surrender. *(Sir Anthony Hopkins, who has been in sobriety since 1975)***

**Have courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones; and when you have laboriously accomplished your daily tasks, go to sleep in peace. God is awake. *(Victor Hugo)***

**To let oneself go, be quiet, receptive is the condition under which such contact with the cosmic Life may be obtained...The superficial self must acknowledge its own insufficiency, must become the humble servant of a more profound and vital consciousness. *(Philo)*   
According to some top medical authorities, any illness we experience is already on the way out when it rises to the surface. We must then decide to simply let it go. *(J. Sig Paulson, Unity Minister, in Unity magazine)***

**As important as “hanging on” is knowing when to “let go.” *(Sherri Dewitt)***

**Things often go badly when I don’t know what I’m doing – but improve when I stop caring. (*Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**What does the name Islam mean? It is Arabic for “surrender,” or “submission,” to the will of God. A good Muslim is “one who surrenders.” *(Barbara Berliner, in The Book of Answers, p. 184)***

**It’s all right letting yourself go, as long as you can get yourself back. *(Mick Jagger)***

**When there was a multitude to be fed, the first thing Jesus did was acquire a little boy’s lunch and bless it. He prayed. He put God first. The result was that thousands of people ate and there were twelve baskets of leftovers. Was there a lame person, or a blind person, or perhaps a leper? He put God first, and these people were healed. Even the dead were raised back to life when He invoked the power of God as regenerating life. Always. He put God first. *(William L. Fischer, Unity Minister)***

**Clarence A. Crane kept trying to get this mint candy machine to work, but it went on punching holes in the centers of the mints. He finally gave up and invented Life Savers. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**At moments of fear or shock, and sometimes for no apparent reason, lobsters may dismember themselves. Luckily, the lobster can always grow new claws, legs or other spare parts. *(David MacDonald, in The Living World of Nature, p. 68)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**When we surrender, we don’t sacrifice anything. We only lose whatever is keeping us the same. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 166)***

**You don’t really have everything, unless you have it, then lose it, then get it all back. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Lars says to Lance: “You know, Lance, I really lose myself in my music. Someday, I hope to get good enough to lose you, too.” *(J. C. Duffy, in The Fusco Brothers comic strip)***

**Doctor says to Hagar: “Now that I’ve examined you, let me explain there are several ways for you to lose weight. First, you must get rid of that goodie bag you’re holding!” (*Chris Browne, in Hagar The Horrible comic strip)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**The first step, after going inside yourself to make changes, is to loose your loved ones and let them go to their good. *(Catherine Ponder, in The Healing Secrets of the Ages, p. 247)***

**I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God’s hands, that I still possess. *(Martin Luther)***

**Sometimes people think it’s holding on that makes one strong. Sometimes it’s letting go. *(Sylvia Robinson, in The Christian Science Monitor)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**During dark and difficult times, we acknowledge our helplessness and turn our lives over to God’s care and guidance. This is precisely what author Catherine Marshall had to do when she was the young widow of Peter Marshall, a Presbyterian pastor and chaplain to the United States Senate. It is in the darkness that we let go and turn to God. This is what happened to best-selling author Dan Wakefield who found himself turning to a spiritual life the week he turned fifty, after studiously avoiding any contact with organized religion since his sophomore year at Columbia University. During a traumatic year, Wakefield experienced a profound awareness of God’s love and peace. Over a twelve-month period, both of his parents died, a relationship with a woman he loved came to an end, and his work in television was terminated. “Faced with a top-ten list of life’s greatest stresses, I found myself muttering the 23rd Psalm,” he says. “Those words spoke more to my condition as I neared my own half-century mark than anything by Hemingway, Freud, or Sartre.” *(Victor M. Parachin, in Unity magazine)***

**After his death, she was attempting to write his biography and received devastating criticism of her manuscript from an editor. The painful realization of her inadequacy as a writer drove Catherine Marshall to tears, but out of that crisis came a major realization. “In my helplessness, there was no alternative but to put the project into God’s hands,” she recalls. “I prayed that A Man Called Peter be His book, and that the results be all His too. And they were. I still regard as incredible the several million copies of A Man Called Peter circulating around the world.” *(Victor M. Parachin, in Unity magazine)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**The career of entertainer Mary Martin took off after a talent show at a Hollywood nightclub. She sang a waltz, called “Il Bacio.” For fun, she decided to jazz up the middle part. She began in traditional fashion, in her best operatic voice. Then she let loose. She finished to a standing ovation and new career. *(Robert & Jeanette Lauer, in Reader’s Digest)***

**In a year when he was given several awards, Trappist monk Thomas Merton wrote in his journal about having received a special honor: A very small gold-winged moth came and settled on the back of my hand and sat there, so light I could not feel it. I wondered at the beauty and delicacy of this being – so perfectly made. I wondered if there is a name for it, as I had never seen such a thing before. It would not go away, until, needing my hand, I blew it lightly into the woods. *(Michael Mott, in The Seven Mountains of Thomas Merton)***

**Until we lose ourselves there is no hope of finding ourselves. *(Henry Miller)***

**Missionary recruitment ad in Maryknoll Magazine: “Ever think of going into your Father’s business?” *(Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**Nothing is mine, I have only nothing but it is enough, it is beautiful and it is all mine. *(Katherine Anne Porter, American author)***

**Don’t cry – nothing’s really lost – everything that ever happened is still safely back there in the past. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

I tried (in contemplation) to obtain by effort that which I could only obtain by ceasing all effort. (Madame Guyon)

**Hold everything you own with an open hand. *(Terri Green)***

**Nothing is more effective than a deep, slow inhale and release for surrendering what you can’t control and focusing again on what is in**

***front of you. (Oprah Winfrey)***

**Letting go does not mean letting go of our involvement. Letting go means letting go of the outcome! Letting go is the release of all concerns about the results. If you have really let go and given it to God, you know the outcome will be what is best for you. The immediate outcome really doesn’t matter because the final outcome will be good. Why? Because God’s desire for us is absolute good. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**The problem with being a parent is that it’s hard to hold on and let go at the same time. *(S.C.U.C.A. Regional Reporter)***

**When I took my first child to the University of Houston’s freshman orientation, parents were taken through an orientation of their own entitled “Letting Go.” There speakers gently tried to help us get used to the fact that our children were now adults. We were told, for example, that the university would not impose curfews, that students were not required to tell parents their grades and that any visits to campus medical clinics were strictly confidential. An assistant dean concluded by asking, “Are there any questions about what you’ve just heard?” Most of us sat in stunned silence, then one parent spoke up. “All I want to know,” she said, “is when do I get to see my baby again?” *(Susan Holler, in Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**In the past you may have been saying to yourself, “God, Your will and my will.” When you admit your helplessness and then surrender to God, you are saying, “God, Your will is my will.” *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest)***

**The most likely moment for something incredible to happen to me was the moment I was most certain nothing ever would. *(Jane Pauley, in Skywriting)***

**Many men aged 50 to 60 undergo a quiet but significant personality change. They stop being bossy, if ever they were, and get more accommodating, says a University of Michigan psychologist. They seem to reconcile themselves to the notion they’ll never really run things. He says this doesn’t happen so noticeably to women, if at all. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**When my granddaughter Cady was almost 4 years old, she asked me to play ball with her in the yard. She grabbed the bat, and I started pitching the ball to her. After many attempts at hitting the ball with no success, she became frustrated and said, “Grandma, please throw the ball where the bat is.” It wasn’t long before we were playing a different game! *(June Hockman, in Country Extra magazine)***

**This is illustrated by the inlet and the outlet of a pool of water. Stop the inlet, and the outlet goes dry. Close the natural outlet, and the pool stagnates, or, like the Dead Sea, it crystallizes its salts until they preserve everything that they touch. *(Charles Fillmore, in The Twelve Powers of Man)***

**The pilot mentioned that the airplane was in trouble. So the man in the seat asked the preacher next to him: “Can you do anything about this situation?” “No.” the preacher said, “I’m in sales, not in management.” *(Joan French)***

**Part of the price of getting where you want to be is leaving where you are. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**When faced with an intractable problem, try putting it completely out of your conscious mind; let is incubate. At the moment you least expect it, a creative solution may pop up. *(Dudley Lynch, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Queen Victoria lived more than 40 years after her husband Albert died – and wore black every day and every night. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**George thinks they should consider releasing a few human beings back into the wild. *(Jim Unger, in Herman comic strip)***

**John D. Rockefeller was self-conscious about tipping, and never could figure it out. He wound up holding an open handful of coins and letting the tippee decide how much was right. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin’. *(Will Rogers)***

**Franklin Roosevelt became a master of politics because he surrendered to it, a recent biographer of Roosevelt wrote. *(Patrick Yack)***

**Since mankind began timing running events, until a damp English afternoon in May, 45 years ago, no one had succeeded in running a mile in under four minutes. The barrier may have been more psychological than physical, but it still seemed insuperable. And no other athletic record had quite the hold on the world’s imagination as the magic four minutes. By today’s overhyped standards, the actual breaking of the record was laughable. A bunch of college and amateur runners, in baggy white shorts and undershirts, on a cinder track, competed, and Roger Bannister, a 25-year-old medical student who competed infrequently because of the demands of his studies, did what no one in the history of timing devices had ever done, a mile in 3:59.4. Today, the lucky runner would have shoe deals, endorsements, appearance money and endless celebrity. Bannister gave up track that very year and became a neurosurgeon. *(Rocky Mountain News, May 10, 1999)***

**You must be willing to sacrifice what you are for what you can become. *(Land Title Guarantee Company calendar)***

**When Andre Meyer hired me to run Avis in 1962, the last item he covered was my salary. “You’ll be paid fifty thousand dollars.” “No, I won’t,” I said. “As an about-to-be-substantial stockholder, I insist the president be paid thirty-six thousand dollars, because that’s top salary for a company that has never earned a nickel for its stockholders.” “Agreed,” said Andre, who always knew when to give up. *(Robert Townsend, in Further Up the Organization)***

**Because many scientists believed they owed a debt of gratitude to John Scopes for his role in the internationally publicized Tennessee “monkey trial,” they helped to establish a scholarship at the University of Chicago so that Scopes could study geology there. Scopes had been tried for teaching evolution in a Dayton, Tennessee, school in the face of a state statute that prohibited the teaching of theories contrary to the accepted biblical interpretation of man’s creation. Controversial trial lawyer Clarence Darrow defended Scopes, and former Presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan worked with the prosecution. Scopes was convicted. When his case went before the Tennessee Supreme Court on appeal, Scopes was so engrossed in his studies that he had little interest in the proceedings, and did not bother to return to Tennessee. The high court reversed the lower court’s decision that Scopes be fined $100. *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 421)***

**The serene mind knows it does not need to outline the way for God to answer prayer; it only needs to let go and let God work. *(Helen Hopper)***

**Signs that we are letting go:  
1. Situations seem to soften and lighten with time.  
2. We can’t quite figure out how the situation is going to turn out.  
3. We recognize more than one good way that the situation can turn out.  
4. Changes seem to keep taking place in our lives.   
5. The situation doesn’t wear us out as much as it did before.  
6. We start living with the situation more than trying to change it.   
7. We are not as concerned with the outcome. *(David J. Seibert, Unity Minister)***

**No snake cares for its offspring after they’re born. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The Oxford sparrow naps in flight. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**During spring cleaning, my husband, Steve, and I were in high gear, glancing at long-unused items and throwing them away. Several days later, we discovered some of them were still needed – a part to a file cabinet, a car-vacuum piece, an attachment for a kitchen rack. That weekend we finished our in-depth cleaning, and again I found some things I couldn’t identify. Handing them to Steve, I asked, “Do we still need these?” “There’s only one way to find out,” he replied and tossed them into the waste-basket. *(Jeanne Lauderdale, in Reader’s Digest)***

**When one burns one’s bridges, what a very nice fire it makes. *(Dylan Thomas)***

**The mother sea turtle digs a hole in the sand, lays her eggs therein, and goes back to the sea, presuming the sun will hatch them. She never comes back to check. There aren’t many such animals that so completely ignore their offspring. Females sea turtles come back to shore to lay their eggs. But once the male hatchlings crawl down to the water, they never come back to the land. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Why am I so often uncertain what to hold on to and what to let go of?**

***(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Learning is important for both people and organizations. But the real challenge today is unlearning, which is much harder. Each of us has a “mental model” that we’ve used over the years to make sense of the world. But the new world of business behaves differently from the world in which we grew up. Before any of us can learn new things, we have to make our current assumptions explicit and find ways to challenge them. This is no academic exercise, and it doesn’t come naturally. In fact, the harder you fight to hold on to specific assumptions, the more likely there’s gold in letting go of them. (John Seely Brown, in Fast Company)**

**Get rid of what you do not want in an outer way. Clean up, clean out the closets, desk drawers, house, car, office. Forming a vacuum in an outer way makes a believer out of your subconscious mind, which then goes to work in inner ways to manifest greater prosperity for you. There has to be a release of the old to make way for the new. You can unblock your good by forming a vacuum. *(Catherine Ponder, in Open Your Mind to Prosperity, p. 27)***

**In Nicollet, Minnesota, the school board has decided to give in and simply pay an $8,000 water bill for a toilet that flushed non-stop for five weeks. *(Associated Press, 1988)***

**This is why it is important to get the words of this phrase in proper order. It is not “Let go and let God.” That is giving God second place. Rather, it is “Let God and let go.” This is putting God first, and the process will never fail. The only way you can know this for yourself, however, is to try it. Once you see how well it works, you will always want to put God first. Yes “let God and let go.” *(William L. Fischer, Unity Minister)***

**Sometimes, the longer you wrestle with a tough problem, the more difficult and complicated it seems to grow. When this happens, it makes sense to push away the problem and take a break. Often, when you come back to it, a solution will emerge. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**For better or worse, yesterday is now entirely out of my hands. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**“Mother, I’m going back to Georgia and I’m going to be a preacher and a congressman and an Ambassador to the United Nations, and I’m going to end up as Mayor of Atlanta and we’re going to bring the Olympic Games to Georgia,” my mother would have begun to look for a psychiatrist. Even my mother could not conceive of the kind of success that I have seen and which I have achieved, not because I was trying to be successful, but simply because I began asking what it was that God wanted me to do with my life and where the power of God and the Spirit of God was leading me. *(Andrew Young)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***