

**FORGIVE, WE CAN,**  
**FORGET, WE CAN 'T**  
*Forgiving and forgetting is divine*  
*Forgiving and not forgetting is human*  
*Do not feel guilty for being human.*  
*Yet let's strive to be divine*

P. Ribes,s.j.

A good and scrupulous person told his confessor: "Father, there is some thing that worries me a lot. I feel guilty for not being able to forget the people that hurt or wrong me".

His Confessor replied: "I'll give you my advice, Are you willing to take it?" See, from now on, every time a person hurts or insults you, hammer a big nail into the wooden door of your room.

"But, Father" he said, the door will get thoroughly spoiled! "Never mind" Father replied. "do it, all the same. You will not regret" "Next," Father added: "every time you forgive the person who hurt you, go back to your room and draw out that nail from the door. After some time, meet me again"

After some days the penitent met his Confessor. Father asked him: "Now my friend, how many nails are still fixed on your door?" He replied: "None, Father,...but the door is if full of holes and bruises Father with a smile remarked, "So, I see that you have already forgiven all your enemies! Only the bruises and the scars and holes of those injuries remain."

**Remember: when God forgives us the wrongs we did, He forgets them too!**  
**But unfortunately, not so with us, puny humans beings.**  
**When we forgive the wrongs done to us,**  
**the scarsholes remain in our minds and hearts.**  
*Forgive we can, forget we can't*  
*Only God can erase the bscars for us*