子曰：
“学而不思则罔，
思而不学则殆。”

The master said,

*learning without thought induces gullibility,*

*thought without learning induces perplexity.*
子曰：
“饭疏食饮水，曲肱而枕之，乐亦在其中矣。不义而富且贵，于我如浮云。”

The master said,

*happiness is in eating simple food, drinking water, and bending your own arm for a pillow. Riches and status through unlawful means, to me, are no more than floating clouds.*

“互乡难与言，童子见，门人惑。子曰：‘与其进也，不与其退也，唯何甚？人洁己以进，与其洁也，不保其往也。’

*The villagers of Hu are seen as nefarious and hard to talk to, yet one of their young was invited by the master to see him. This baffled his disciples. The master said, I am only to compliment his progress, not admonish his error. Why should we be so harsh? He has corrected his mistakes, and we should complement his progress instead of clinging to what he had done in the past.*
子曰：“吾有知乎哉？无知也。有鄙夫问于我，空空如也。我叩其两端而竭焉。”

The master said, am I erudite?
No, I am ignorant.
Whenever a plebeian asks me a question, I have no answer.
I can only tackle the question by exploring it from end to end, step by step, and then come up with an answer.

子贡问曰：“有一言而可以终身行之者乎？”
子曰：“其恕乎！己所不欲，勿施于人。”

Zigong asked,
is there one word a person can carry for his entire life?
The master said, that would be ‘forgiveness’! If you don’t want something to happen to you, don’t let it happen to others.
子曰：
“君子和而不同，小人同而不和。”

The master said,
the gentleman harmonizes but never conforms.
The petty man conforms but never harmonizes.

子曰：
“岁寒，然后知松柏之后彫后也。”

The master said,
only when it comes to harsh winters shall we see
that the pine and cypress are the last to lose their leaves.
子曰：
“巧言乱德。小不忍则乱大谋。”

The master said,
clever words corrupt virtue. Lack of tolerance
over small issues will lead to the disruption of large schemes.

子曰：
“道不同，不相为谋。”

The master said,
if your way is different from another,
you two should not work together.