

One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!

26 “*Let’s pray!*”

My wife and I, like many young couples after WWII, had been brought up in the Christian faith and attended and married in a denominational church. We didn’t know exactly where we were in our faith journey, but we knew it was important to find a church home for our children.

When we moved back to Wichita with our first child, we began our search. Our choice was practical, if not very theological: we chose a large mainline downtown church where our daughter didn’t cry in the nursery!

About five years and two children later we moved into a new development where a small mission church was being started. One day the pastor called on us and invited us to attend. Before leaving, he calmly announced, “*Let’s pray!*” We were startled, but we found it attractive, and began to attend.

For almost forty years we were fed and nourished as our family, our faith and the congregation all grew. Ellie and I listened, read, studied, taught, served, agreed and disagreed. Our children were fed and nourished in Sunday school, church services, camp settings, retreats and several were married in the sanctuary. We all developed friendships and relationships that still exist today.

Our family is in the fourth generation now and we attend multiple churches, but that young pastor’s open prayer life and invitation so many years ago dramatically changed the course of all our lives.

I wonder where we would be if he hadn’t said, “*Let’s pray!*”

From Grandpa With Love

A Note From the Writer

Moving into my nineties caused me to reminisce. It was eye-opening to realize how much I had been changed by one-liners. I decided some of these might give others a new insight or a chuckle, so—enjoy! You can reproduce this material, provided the copies are complete, including this copyright note, and circulated free of charge. © 2017 Marvin J. Martin