

## *One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!*

### # 34 “*Simplify! Simplify! Simplify!*”

When God teaches us, He often uses multiple illustrations.

Our daughter suffered from a somewhat rare medical problem. When we sought the advice of one physician he confused us with high-sounding medical words. Sensing his inability to define the problem in terms we could understand, we spoke with an acknowledged specialist. After his examination, the specialist said, “The blood system is much like a plumbing system.” With a few simple diagrams and a short explanation, he explained so we could make an intelligent decision.

Earlier in our life, I had a similar conversation with a salesman and an engineer. Those were the days when we still hung our clothes outside to dry. One day, as the three of us were visiting, the salesman said he was thinking of putting in some new metals poles and a clothes line. The engineer, who had been trained to think precisely, suggested he plan the project and began to use terms like radius and circumference. The salesman looked puzzled, and then announced, “I was just going to dig a hole!”

The salesman and the physician were very different men, but both taught me how important it is to speak simply. And each one made me concentrate even more as a lawyer and later as a speaker and writer, on making every communication understandable.

I guess the old adage, “*Simplify! Simplify! Simplify!*” is still good advice!

*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