

One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!

35 “*Middle Age: A Normal Crisis*”

One of the most impactful speeches I ever heard was entitled, “***Middle Age: A Normal Crisis***”. The Rotary speaker was a psychiatrist in a world renowned clinic, who said he chose the subject because it was where he was in life. So was I—and I was ripe for his comments which I still recall fifty years later!

The heart of the message was this: The normal life span is about 80 years. Since we can see ahead about as far as behind, we often realize around age forty, we are going to die. We may feel frustrated, bewildered and sometimes broken by having lost a job, a promotion, or a marriage. We believe we are rapidly becoming what we’re going to be and it’s not what we wanted or hoped, and we are searching for answers. Thus the term, “the funky forties”!

Some buy sports cars and/or remarry to try and have it all before it’s too late. Others change careers, similar to about half of the seminary students I met on a trip to Israel who were making a mid-life correction to go from the work world to the church world.

The key is to recognize it is change time and deal with it!

I didn’t realize it at the time, but the next few years were going to usher in the most significant life changes I would ever experience. They would affect my family, my career, and most of all, my eternal destiny. I cannot imagine where I and others in my world might be today if God had not graciously guided me.

The speaker—and the Lord—have my gratitude and thanks!

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 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