

One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!

44 “*Before you go, speak to the congregation.*”

After surrendering my will and beginning to follow Jesus, I found myself restless and wanting to make changes. One day, our pastor asked if I would tell the congregation about my new-found faith. When I confessed to him we were thinking of going to another church, he said, “I know”, and then added, “***Before you go, speak to the congregation.***”

I was reluctant to speak. The sixties had been traumatic with assassinations of the President, his brother and Martin Luther King, the Viet Nam war, civil unrest and the bombing of our law office. Our family was going through the teen years and some difficult medical issues, and my wife had lost her only brother, mother, father and grandmother during the same period. I needed help from others and didn’t feel qualified to tell anyone, anything!

But I agreed. At the end of my remarks I invited any who wanted to get together and talk to give me their names. I had no idea what I had set in motion.

About a dozen of us began meeting in our home for a study based on Ray Stedman’s book, *Body Life*. We grew to thirty or forty, and loved and learned together for several years. In addition, I received a call shortly after the church service from a man who later came to my office and surrendered his life to Jesus. And I stayed with that congregation for the next 25 years!

I learned much of the journey with Jesus is simply to walk through the doors when He opens them. We don’t have to feel good or qualified. Just listen, and then do what He tells us!

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