

One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!

49 “To Marvin, from Marvin, In Love”

I was taught from an early age to be self-reliant. It was a part of our Depression era upbringing. It took me many years, and one memorable lesson, to learn the gift of receiving. It came through a good friend who told me what I needed to hear, even when I didn't want to receive it.

We were at a Christian bookstore, when I saw a particular book which appealed to me and I mentioned it to my friend. He said, “Let me buy it for you.” I declined and indicated I would get it myself. He responded, “Oh, come on, let me buy you the book!”

Instead of graciously accepting his offer, I insisted I would buy the book. He smiled and waited until I returned from paying. Then he said, “Here, let me write in it.” I handed it to him, but thought how strange that he wanted to write in the flyleaf when I had bought the book.

When he handed it back to me, I opened the book and read the following statement:

“To Marvin, From Marvin, In Love”

followed by my friend's signature. Now would you like to know the name of the book I had bought for myself? It was,

“Let God Love You!”

It was an embarrassing lesson, but a valuable one. I finally understood that God often shows His love to us through other people—but we have to humble ourselves and receive!

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