

One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!

59 “*Don’t work too long*”

Not long before I retired, an older physician advised me, “*Don’t work too long*”. He then told me of an older surgeon who wanted to work as long as possible, but was concerned about making an error in his closing years. So he asked his long-time assistant to tell him if she saw evidence it was time. Finally, the assistant, (reluctantly, I’m sure), did as instructed. My friend then asked, “Do you know what her boss did?”—“He fired her!” He then concluded, “The point is, none of us think it’s time for us!”

I have heard some caution, “Don’t retire, or you will stagnate and die.” For me, the stress of travel, competition and conflict made me more concerned I might die if I didn’t retire! In fact, I believe I grew healthier and felt better after I retired than at age 65 when I began to make the change!

I do not know when is the right time, if ever, for you to retire. Samuel was probably about sixty-five years old when he gave up his position as Judge over Israel. Moses was eighty when he began to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, but he noted a normal life span of seventy to eighty years in Psalm 90.

I have concluded God has a way of telling us, if we will listen. We don’t stop working. We merely change chapters in order to move on to the rest of the life and work God has for us in our later years. And it may have more lasting value than the earlier years.

I never regretted the decision. In fact, I shudder to think what I would have missed if I hadn’t let go and trusted Him for the new!

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. © 2018 Marvin J. Martin