

One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!

88 “*We need to join that class!*”

After I retired, we decided to make some changes, including a new home and a new church. When we visited another congregation we had enjoyed over the years, some senior friends asked if I would teach a new class they wanted to form. Without praying or consulting Ellie, I curtly answered, “No! I think I am to work with younger folks.” It was obvious they were shocked!

And so was Ellie! When we left, she told me quietly, but very emphatically and forcefully, “***We need to join that class!***”

I knew immediately I had messed up! As soon as we were home, I called the woman who had the vision for the class and asked if they would still have me. Now it was my turn to be humbled. “When I saw you in the service”, she said, “I prayed and felt God tell me you were the man. I was so puzzled when you refused.”

God taught me an invaluable lesson. It isn’t my job to tell Him what I am to do. It is to ask—and listen for His answers. And to realize they may not come directly from Him, but rather from others He brings (sometimes unexpectedly) into our lives.

For me this ushered in a chapter of life that was a breath of fresh air. For nearly 15 years, I was blessed to study, teach and write what God was opening up to me, and pass it on to others who were hungry for his Word.

One of the best gifts God has given men is wives who now and then help us hear His voice and give us a message—such as, “***We need to join that class!***”

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