

One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!

89 “*You are trying to get us to think!*”

I learned early in my law career that I could be a zealous advocate, but it was not a natural fit, and it hardened me. As time went on, I realized I enjoyed and was much more suited (and gifted) to search for, and find ways to resolve disputes and avoid litigation and to teach them to our clients and to others.

Later, as I was entering the world of the Bible I discovered it, too, was a “legal book”. It is replete with words such as law, judge, judgment, witness, testimony, verdict, guilty, pardon, swear, oath, prison, sentence, govern, government, ruler, rule, inheritance, kingdom, etc.—and scriptures such as Psalm 19 and 119 in the Old Testament and the Sermon on the Mount in the New Testament both talk much about legal issues.

Working in the Bible was much like the work I had done in the secular Law books, and the part I enjoyed most was searching out issues and teaching and explaining them to others. I wanted to be sure they could understand, but I was primarily depending on the Holy Spirit to move them to act.

One Sunday morning, as I was explaining something I was attempting to get the class to *know*, I said emphatically, “I’m not trying to get you to *do* anything!”

A man stood up in the back row and responded just as emphatically. “*Yes you are. You are trying to get us to think!*” My answer was short and contrite: “I plead guilty!”

And, just think, I am still privileged to do it even as an old man!

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