

# Debate Among the Tools

Leslie B. Flynn, author of the book *Nineteen Gifts of the Spirit*, imagines the carpenter's tools holding a conference:

*Bro. Hammer presided. Several suggested he leave the meeting because he was too noisy. Replied the Hammer, "If I have to leave this shop, Bro. Screw must go also. You have to turn him around again and again to get him to accomplish anything."*

*Bro. Screw then spoke up. "If you wish, I will leave. But Bro. Plane must leave, too. All his work is on the surface. His efforts have no depth."*

*To this, Bro. Plane responded, "Bro. Rule will also have to withdraw, for he is always measuring folks as though he were the only one who is right."*

*Bro. Rule then complained against Bro. Sandpaper, "You ought to leave, too, because you're so rough and always rubbing people the wrong way."*



*In the midst of all this discussion, in walked the Carpenter of Nazareth. He had arrived to start His day's work. Putting on His apron, He went to the bench to make a pulpit from which to proclaim the gospel. He employed the hammer, screw, plane, rule, sandpaper and all the other tools.*

*After the day's work, when the pulpit was finished, Bro. Saw arose and remarked, "Brethren, I observe that all of us are workers together with the Lord."*

*God is a God of variety. In nature, what a diversity of animals! Every snowflake is different, every fingerprint, every face. Likewise, God is a God of variety in His church. What a diversity of gifts He has bestowed on believers to equip them for service!*

Author Flynn's observations are right on point. They also apply to the centers we operate. Every position in our nursing centers is important if we are to be successful in the mission to which we are called. Whether our talents qualify us for maintenance, nursing, business office, rehab, food service, activities, administration, laundry, housekeeping, marketing, reception, admissions, social service, physician – whatever the department – every job is critical to provision of quality care, homelike and functional environment, and the well-being of those we serve.

And as Bro. Saw pointed out, "all of us are workers together with the Lord."

– Beecher Hunter