

# TIME



**A measurable period during which an action or condition exists or continues**

Time; the one thing in life we have absolutely *no* control over. Yes, we control what we do with our time, but as the old saying goes, ‘time marches on’ and we must decide what we will do with our time. At this moment we have nephews and nieces traveling to see their father before he enters eternity. My mother went home to be with the Lord this past year - Carmen and I have dealt with medical conditions that compel us to consider that we don’t have *that* many years left to us. While *time* is eternal, our time on earth is not all that long. As we enter a new year, it is a good time to ask; what are we going to do with the time God has given us?

It makes me think of all the time Carmen and I spent arguing and fighting about things that really didn’t matter in the long run. I happily reflect on the fact that we don’t do that any longer. We use the tools we learned and taught over the years to work through issues that arise and move on. It makes my heart sad to consider that there are so many couples now experiencing what we experienced in the past. *Time; a measurable period during which and action or condition exists or continues*: this applies to our lives overall, to the trouble we may experience, to problems that arise - to every aspect of life!

So again, what are we doing with the time God has given us on earth? Are we investing our time into knowing the Lord better and walking with Him and in relationships (our marriage, family and others) or are we spending our time frivolously on self and the stuff of the world? Jesus told us what is most important in life; loving God and loving our neighbor (spouse, family, others). Remember love is to give of ourselves (1 John 3:16) *That* is where our priority should be.

The articles referred to below provide some great ideas for taking time to build your marriage relationship, but first *you* must decide what is important - *you* must prioritize what you will spend *your* time on. Would you do that? Would you prioritize giving of yourself to God and to your closest neighbor, your spouse? Take some time to consider how you might use the time you have in this coming year.

**Helpful Resources:** *Fortified Marriages Resource page: [www.fortifiedmarriages.com](http://www.fortifiedmarriages.com)*

**Articles to check out:**

*10 Ideas: Making Time for Your Spouse* by Mary May Larmoyeux - [familylife.com](http://familylife.com)

*Make a date of it – The importance of spending time together* by [careforthefamily.org](http://careforthefamily.org)