



The Ministry Minute

AN UPDATE FROM GLEN & SHAWN SOLBERG SERVING WITH
FAMILYLIFE AND CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST

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5800 Ranch Drive
Little Rock, AR 72223

June 2011 Update

The Direction of Your Marriage: Which Way are You Heading?

The kids and I had a chance to get out recently and enjoy the beautiful Spring weather on our bikes. One of the challenges of riding around the Little Rock area are the many hills. There are hills everywhere that we must “work to get up”. The joy of climbing the hill, however, is the downhill side where you get to coast!!

Unfortunately, our marriages are NOT like that bike ride. There is no coasting. Here is a quote from a good friend in marriage ministry as he writes about this:

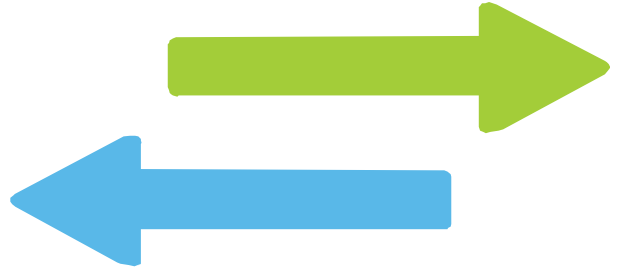
“Don’t ever think that your marriage is just in a stationary position. It’s always moving in one of two directions. One’s good—One’s bad. You are either moving towards intimacy or you are drifting towards isolation. Be PRO-ACTIVE in making sure that you are moving in the right direction—intimacy.”

The lie so many husbands and wives want to believe is that they can do nothing to grow in their marriage and still be OK. The truth however paints another picture. There is no “stationary” in our marriage relationship. We are either *intentionally moving* towards intimacy with one another OR we are *naturally drifting* towards isolation. Two options—that’s it!

And the *biggest obstacle* for most couples to be intentionally moving towards one another is over scheduling and “busy-ness”. Shawn and I battle this constantly. We often try to cram so much into our day that we push out any time for our marriage relationship. We invest in lesser things instead of making our marriage the priority God intended it to be. We sacrifice the best God has for us and choose good things instead. Good things, even like spending time with our kids or doing church activities, are not the BEST things if we are sacrificing our marriage over and over to do them.

So what do we do as husbands and wives to combat this? How do we begin to move proactively and intentionally towards intimacy in our marriage? Shawn and I are so glad you asked...

We have included, with our monthly update, an article entitled Rule #1: Make Your Spouse a Priority. But please, please don’t just read it. Reading it is the first step only. The next step is actually putting some of its suggestions into practice. Remember, information does not equal transformation. Information plus application leads to transformation. Apply the suggestions and begin to see your marriage move towards intimacy. And please contact us for questions, encouragement, and prayer. God **ble**ss you and God **ble**ss your marriage!



ENCLOSED—Prayer for Husbands and Wives: One easy way to begin to change the direction of your marriage is to pray. Prayer is a powerful tool to help us focus on our relationship with God. So we have enclosed two copies of a prayer from the enclosed article on making your spouse a priority. Please put this prayer somewhere you will see it daily: on your mirror, above your computer screen, on your nightstand, etc. Then begin to read and pray it from your heart!

June Verse:

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

Matthew 7:24-25

Join us in giving our Lord praise for:

- We had a great time doing The Art of Marriage (AOM) with 6 couples from our small group. We are planning to host an AOM at our home church this Fall! Our faith goal is to have 30 or more couples attend!
- God’s protection for our home and family through the many storms and tornadoes that have come thru Arkansas this Spring.
- God’s provision: Even in the midst of a less than great economy, the Lord continues to provide for the ministry of FamilyLife AND for us as supported staff!!
- Marriage: The spouse God has given you is a gift from Him—you must receive that gift!

Join us in praying to our Lord God for:

- June Trip: Safety and protection for Glen and Josh as they travel to Austin in early June for the WTR there and some additional work in San Antonio.
- June Trip: Safety for Glen as he travels to the Rio Grande Valley in late June to work with the team there in preparation for the WTR in November.
- Volunteer Leadership: Continued prayer for the Lord to bring a dynamic couple (or 2) in San Antonio to lead the volunteer team there this year and for years to come!
- Our Character: That the Lord would continue to use circumstances in our lives to mold our character and that we would daily live that character out for His glory!
- Daily Keeping Our Priorities: God first, Marriage second, Family third, and Ministry activities after that.

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