

A THOUSAND MARBLES

While complaining to a friend about so much to do and so little time, he interrupted me with,

"Let me tell you something Tom, something that has helped me keep a good perspective on my own priorities".

And that's when he began to explain his theory of "a thousand marbles".

"You see, I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about 75 years. I know, some live more and some live less, but on average, folks live about 75 years.

"Now then, I multiplied 75 times 52 and I came up with 3,900, which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime.

Now, stick with me Tom, I'm getting to the important part.

"It took me until I was 55 years old to think about all this in any detail", he went on, "and by that time, I had lived through over

2,800 Saturdays. I got to thinking that if I lived to be 75, I only had about 1,000 of them left to enjoy.

"So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had.

I ended up having to visit three toy stores to round up 1,000 marbles. I took them home and put them inside of a large, clear plastic container right here in the shack next to my gear. Every Saturday since then I have taken one marble out and thrown it away.

"I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things in life. There is nothing like watching your time here on this earth run out to help get your priorities straight.

"Now, let me tell you one last thing before I sign off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast. This morning, I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure if I made it until next Saturday, then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time."

"It was nice to talk with you Tom, I hope you spend more time with your family."

He gave me a lot to think about. I had planned to work that morning, and then I was going to meet up with a few friends to work on a club project later. Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife up with a kiss. "C'mon honey, I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast."

What brought this on?" she asked with a smile. "Oh, nothing special, it's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. Hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles."

HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND AND MAY ALL SATURDAYS BE SPECIALL!!!!!!!!!! >>