

Outline of Wedding Ceremony

Introduction

Today is the day. While committed to each other in mind, body and spirit, you have come together to join as husband and wife. Marriage is on the most important obligations that any two people commit to in their lifetime. It offers the greatest of challenges to overcome, but in return marriage gives us love, strength and support from one another.

A good marriage is dependent upon many factors, the most important being a strong bond of friendship and respect for one another. Your Love for each other will grow deeper with the passing of each day, but genuine liking for each other, the willingness to accept each other's strengths and weaknesses, with understanding and respect, is the foundation for a strong marriage and a good life together.

Poem – Apache wedding Prayer

You are my heart's twin.
My first thought in the morning
And my last thought at night.
You are my soul's mirror,
The only one who truly understands
How it is with me.
I wish I could put into words
the depth of my feeling.
When I think about
The good times we've shared
And yes, the difficult one, too,
I feel simply and quietly grateful
To have found you.

The vows exchanged today are promises of the eternal love you pledge to each other. The words spoken are expressions of what you feel in your hearts and souls and will bond the two of you together forever.

Vows

(OPTION #1)

_____, will you have _____ to be your wedded wife?
Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health, in sorrow and in joy, and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her from this day forward?

_____, I will.

_____, will you have _____ to be your wedded husband?
Will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health, in sorrow and in joy, forsaking all others, be faithful to him from this day forward?

_____, I will.

(OPTION #2)

_____, please repeat after me. I, _____, take you _____ to be my wife / To love and cherish, / For better or for worse / For richer / For poorer / In sickness and in health, / I promise to be your lover, / Your companion and partner in life / and above all, your best friend.

_____, please repeat after me. I, _____, take you _____ to be my husband / To love and cherish, / For better or for worse / For richer / For poorer / In sickness and in health, / I promise to be your lover, / Your companion and partner in life / and above all, your best friend.

Presentation of Rings

What symbols do you offer in honor of this marriage?
[_____ presents rings] The circle of these rings is a symbol of love freely given, love that has no beginning and no end.

_____, place the ring on _____'s finger, and repeat after me:

“With this ring, a symbol of my love I hereby join my life with yours.”

_____, place the ring on _____'s finger, and repeat after me:

“With this ring, a symbol of my love I hereby join my life with yours.”

Prayer

Now you will feel no rain, for each of you will be shelter to the other.

Now you will feel no cold, for each of you will be warmth to the other.

Now there will be no loneliness, for now you are two persons as one.

But there is only one life before you, go now into the world, to enter into the days of your togetherness.

May your years together be good and long upon the Earth, and may all that is beautiful and true abide in you forever.

Break glass here...?

_____ and _____ having chosen each other from the many men and women of the Earth, and having made your pledges to each other before this gathering, I do, by the power vested in me by the laws of the State of California, pronounce you husband and wife.

You may kiss the bride.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I present to you _____ and _____.