

Short/Elopement/Civil Wedding Ceremony Joyous Vows

Introduction:

Love is the reason we are here. In marriage we not only say, "I love you today", but also, "I promise to love you for all of our tomorrows."

<Groom> and <Bride>, in the days ahead of you, there will be stormy times and good times, times of conflict and times of joy. I ask you to remember this advice:

Never go to bed angry.

Let your love be stronger than your anger.

Learn the wisdom of compromise, for it is better to bend than it is to break.

Believe the best of your beloved rather than the worst.

Confide in your partner and ask for help when you need it.

Remember that true friendship is the basis for any lasting relationship.

Give your spouse the same courtesies and kindnesses you bestow upon your friends.

Say "I love you" every day.

Vows :

<Bride> and <Groom>, please join your hands, as a symbol of your spiritual union.

While it is true that your marriage vows and marital obligations are not to be taken lightly, remember, too, to be gentle and forgiving with each other.

Also remember that laughter, love, and companionship are the primary ingredients that will nurture your lives together.

<Bride> please repeat after me:

I <Bride> take you, <Groom>,
to be my lawfully wedded Husband,
to have and to hold, to love and to cherish,
in sickness and in health,
till death do us part.

And, <Groom> please repeat after me:

I <Groom> take you, <Bride>,
to be my lawfully wedded Wife,
to have and to hold,
to love and to cherish,
in sickness and in health,
till death do us part.

Ring Exchange:

<Groom>, As a symbol of your never ending love, please place this ring on <Bride>'s finger and repeat after me:

With this ring,
as a token of my love and affection,
I thee wed.

<Bride>, As a symbol of your never ending love, please place this ring on **<Groom>**'s finger and repeat after me:
With this ring,
as a token of my love and affection,
I thee wed.

Final Remarks to Bride & Groom:

<Groom>: and **<Bride>**:

As you continue on your journey together, I ask you to remember these keys to love:

The key to love is **understanding** ...
for it is the little things that say so much by themselves.

The key to love is **forgiving**
to accept each others faults and pardon each others mistakes,

The key to love is **sharing** ...
Sharing your good fortunes as well as the bad, together.

The key to love is **giving** ...
Giving without thought of return, // but with the hope of just a simple smile,
and by giving **in** but never giving **up**.

Pronouncement & Introduction:

And now, by virtue of the authority vested in me, I pronounce you Husband and Wife.

You may kiss your bride!

Introduction:

Ladies and Gentlemen, I present to you Mr. & Mrs. **<Groom>**
<Lastname>

Alternate introduction when Bride does not take Groom's Last name:

Ladies and Gentlemen, It is my pleasure to present the newly united couple, **<Bride>** **<Lastname>** and **<Groom>**
<Lastname>