



WEDDING CEREMONIES

Most people are not “wedding experts.” They’d like a little help in planning the wedding ceremony. For that reason I have added this packet of two traditional wedding options. Music can be added, wording changed; anything can be done to make it more meaningful for you. However, this will give you a great place to start.
~Enjoy as you plan for your wedding.

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1. [Traditional Wedding with Unity Candle \(p. 2\)](#)
2. [Traditional Wedding- no candle \(p. 5\)](#)

WEDDING CEREMONY ~with Unity Candle

#1

MOTHERS ESCORTED TO SEAT

MOTHERS LIGHT THE END CANDLES OF THE UNITY CANDLE PLACEMENT

GROOM @ ALTAR or ****GROOM'S PROCESSIONAL** (**Optional)

BRIDE'S PROCESSIONAL

OPENING PRAYER (Pastor)

SCRIPTURE READING

Love is very patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, never haughty or selfish or rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges and will hardly even notice when others do it wrong. It is never glad about injustice, but rejoices whenever truth wins out.

If you love someone you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him. All the special gifts and powers from God will someday come to an end, but love goes on forever. ¹

Cor 13: 4-8

#2

PASTOR'S ADDRESS

Addresses the bride & groom, ending with reading...

Marriage is a union embodying such ideals that it is not to be entered into lightly or unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in fear of God. It is into such a union you come now to be joined.

INVOCATION GROOM & BRIDE

Groom:

Scripture says to the husband:

Eph 5

25. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it,

26. that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27. that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.

28. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

And **Bride:**

Eph 5-

22. Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

23. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

24. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

And to both Scripture says **"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." Eph 5:21**

#3

GIVING AWAY THE BRIDE

Let me ask now: Who gives **Bride:** _____ to be married to **Groom** _____?

VOWS

Groom: _____, before God and these witnesses, will you take **Bride** _____ to be your wife? Will you love and comfort her, honor and keep her and, in joy and sorrow, preserve with her this bond, holy and unbroken, until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, or as long as you both shall live? *(I will)*

Bride: _____, before God and these witnesses, will you take **Groom:** _____ to be your husband? Will you love and comfort him, honor and keep him and, in joy and sorrow, preserve with him this bond, holy and unbroken, until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, or as long as you both shall live? *(I will)*

Then, ***please face each other, take each other by the right hand .***

Groom: _____ **repeat after me...**

I **Groom:** _____, take you **Bride:** _____ to be my wife; to love you with all my heart's affection, to endow you with all my earthly possessions; to give you all the honor of my name; and to share with you the grace of my God.

I **Bride:** _____ take you **Groom:** _____ to be my husband. "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God."

EXCHANGE RINGS

As a token of this covenant, you will now give and receive the marriage rings. *(Take ring from Best Man:_____)*

1. The **unbroken circle** is the emblem of eternity.
2. The **gold** is the emblem of that which is least tarnished.
3. This **ring** is to show the pledge you have made to each other.

As you place the ring on your bride's left hand please say this: **With this ring, I thee wed.**

(Take ring from Bride's Maid_____)

With this ring, an **emblem of purity and endless devotion**, you seal the bonds of holy marriage.

As you slip this ring on your husband's left hand, please say these words: **With this ring, I thee wed.**

#4

UNITY CANDLE

As a further symbol of their union, the couple will now light the unity candle: *(As the couple light the center candle together)*

The two outside candles have been lit to represent both your lives in this moment, given to you by God and your parents. They are two distinct lights, each capable of going their separate ways.

As you join now in marriage, there is a merging of these two lights into one light. This is what the Lord meant when He said, "**On this account a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall be one flesh.**" From now on your thoughts shall be for each other rather than your individual selves.

***Your plans shall be mutual, your joys and sorrows shall be shared alike. As you each take a candle and together light the center one, you extinguish your own candles, letting the center candle represent the union of your lives into one flesh. As this one light cannot be divided, neither shall your lives be divided but a united testimony in a Christian home. May the radiance of this one light be a testimony of your unity in the Lord Jesus Christ.*

***Give a rose to the mothers** (**optional)*

#5

PROCLAMATION OF THE MARRIAGE

Inasmuch as you **Groom:** _____, and you **Bride:** _____ have thus consented in holy matrimony and have witnessed the same before God and these friends, by virtue of the authority vested in me as a minister of the Word of God, and by the laws of this state, I now pronounce you husband and wife. "Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

*****You may now kiss your bride!***

BLESSING

Numbers 6

24. "The Lord bless you and keep you;

25. the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

26. the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."

Amen

PRESENTATION

I present to you Mr. and Mrs. _____.

Remember the signing of certificates

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WEDDING CEREMONY *-SECOND OPTION*

#1 *-Seating & Processionals*

MOTHER ESCORTED TO SEAT

GROOM STANDING @FRONT

BRIDE'S PROCESSIONAL

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

#2

PASTOR'S ADDRESS

The Art Of A Good Marriage

Wilferd Arlan Peterson

Happiness in marriage is not something that just happens.

A good marriage must be created.

In marriage the little things are the big things.

It is never being too old to hold hands.

It is remembering to say "I love you" at least once a day.

It is never going to sleep angry.

It is at no time taking the other for granted;

the courtship should not end

with the honeymoon, it should continue through the years.

It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives.

It is standing together facing the world.

It is forming a circle of love that gathers the whole family.

It is doing things for each other, not in the attitude of

duty or sacrifice, but in the spirit of joy. It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.

It is not looking for perfection in each other.

It is cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding and a sense of humor.

It is having the capacity to forgive and forget.

It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow old.

It is a common search for the good and the beautiful.

It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal,

dependence is mutual and the obligation is reciprocal.

It is not only marrying the right partner, it is being the right partner.

#3

INVOCATION GROOM & BRIDE

Scripture says to the *husband*:

Eph 5

25. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it,

26. that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27. that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.

28. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

To *bride*-

Eph 5-

22. Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

23. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

24. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

And to both Scripture says **"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."** Eph 5:21

#4 The Vows

GIVING AWAY THE BRIDE

Let me ask now: Who gives bride to be married to husband?

VOWS

Groom, before God and these witnesses, will you take Bride to be your wife? Will you love and comfort her, honor and keep her and, in joy and sorrow, preserve with her this bond, holy and unbroken, until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, or as long as you both shall live? *(I will)*

Bride, before God and these witnesses, will you take Groom to be your husband? Will you love and comfort him, honor and keep him and, in joy and sorrow, preserve with him this bond, holy and unbroken, until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, or as long as you both shall live? *(I will)*

Then, ***please face each other, take each other by the right hand*** .

Groom repeat after me...

I Groom, take you Bride to be my wife; to love you with all my heart's affection, to endow you with all my earthly possessions; to give you all the honor of my name; and to share with you the grace of my God.

I Bride take you Groom to be my husband. "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God."

6

#5

EXCHANGE RINGS

As a token of this covenant, you will now give and receive the marriage rings. *(Pastor takes ring from best man)*

1. The ***unbroken circle*** is the emblem of eternity.
2. The ***gold*** is the emblem of that which is least tarnished.
3. This ***ring*** is to show the pledge you have made to each other.

(Pastor hands to groom)

As you place the ring on your bride's left hand please say this: **With this ring, I thee wed.**

(Pastor takes ring from ringer bearer or maid of honor)

With this ring, an ***emblem of purity and endless devotion***, you seal the bonds of holy marriage.

(Pastor hands to bride)

As you slip this ring on your husband's left hand, please say these words: **With this ring, I thee wed.**

#6

PROCLAMATION OF THE MARRIAGE

Inasmuch as you Groom, and you Bride have thus consented in holy matrimony and have witnessed the same before God and these friends, by virtue of the authority vested in me as a minister of the Word of God, and by the laws of this state, I now pronounce you husband and wife. "Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

You may now kiss your bride!

BLESSING

Numbers 6

24. "The Lord bless you and keep you;

**25. the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
26. the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you
peace."'**

Amen

PRESENTATION

I present to you Mr. and Mrs.

Remember the signing of certificates –not necessary in re-affirming vows

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