

A Brief Elopement Ceremony

_____ and _____, today you celebrate one of life's greatest moments and give recognition to the worth and beauty of love, as you join together in vows of marriage.

_____, do you take _____ to be your wedded wife? To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer, in good times and bad, until death do you part?

_____ replies: "I do."

And _____, do you take _____, to be your wedded husband? To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer, in good times and bad, until death do you part?

_____ replies: "I do."

Do you have rings?

_____, please slide your ring onto _____'s finger and repeat after me:

I _____, take you, _____,

To be my wife.

Through whatever may come our way,

I promise my love to you.

With this ring, I thee wed.

_____, please present your ring to _____ and repeat these same promises:

I _____, take you, _____,

To be my husband.

Through whatever may come our way,

I promise my love to you.

With this ring, I thee wed.

Just as two very different threads woven in opposite directions can form a beautiful tapestry, so can your two lives merge together to form a very beautiful marriage. To make your marriage work will take love. Love should be the core of your marriage, love is the reason you are here. But it also will take trust - to know in your hearts you want the best for each other. It will take dedication - to stay open to one another; to learn and to grow together even when this is not always so easy to do. It will take faith - to always be willing to go forward to tomorrow, never really knowing what tomorrow will bring. And it will take commitment - to hold true to the journey you both now pledge to share together.

_____ and _____, in so much as the two of you have agreed to live together in matrimony, and have promised your love for each other by these vows, I now declare you to be Husband and Wife.

Congratulations, you may kiss your bride!