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# CEREMONY #2

**Who gives this woman to be married to this man ? (response)**

Friends and family of the bride and groom, what a joy it is to welcome you here, for we have come to celebrate the miracle of love, and to witness the union of and Every Experience you have ever had, everything you have ever done, everything you have ever learned, has brought you to this moment as you now stand before these witnesses to take each other as husband and wife. New experiences lie before you with opportunities to grow deeper in love with each other. As you walk hand in hand into the future, cherish each moment as a gift,,, a gift given to strengthen the bond between you.

**and , as you give your hand to the other, are you both prepared to be united as husband and wife? (Taking hands, ”WE ARE”)**

**Today, you are taking into your care and trust, the happiness of the one person in the world whom you love with all your heart. You are agreeing to share life’s deepest and richest experiences. You are adding to your life, not only the affection of each other, but also the companionship and blessing of mutual respect. You have invited these guests to share in the celebration of your love, a love that now culminates in your union as husband and wife.**

**When you enter into marriage, you enter into life’s most important relationship. It is a gift, given to bring comfort when there is sorrow, peace when there is unrest, laughter when there is happiness, and love when it is shared. Real love goes far beyond the feelings of romance and bliss. It is caring more about the well-being and happiness of your marriage partner than your own needs and desires. Love makes burdens lighter because you share them. It makes joys more intense because you share them. It makes you stronger so you can become involved with life in ways you dare not risk alone. Real love says that you are stronger together, than when you are apart.**

**A successful marriage is not something that just happens. It takes work and it takes effort. Most importantly, it takes a commitment from both of you. A good marriage must be created. Listen to these words of wisdom on how to create a successful 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, but should continue through all the years,**

**It is forming a circle of love that gathers in 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 expecting the husband to wear the halo, or the wife to have the wings of an angel,**

**It is not looking for perfection in each other,**

**It is having the capacity to forgive and forget,**

**It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal, the dependence is mutual, and the obligation is reciprocal.**

**And finally, it is not only marrying the right partner, it is being the right partner.**

**(groom and bride to repeat after minister)**

**I (groom) (bride), pledge to you (bride) (groom), my absolute belief in us. I fell in love with you for your qualities, abilities, and outlook on life. In return, I will share what I have and who I am. I will be true to you in all things. I will keep myself open to you and let you see my innermost fears and feelings, secrets and dreams. I will talk with you, listen to you, and find comfort in you. With the passing of every moment, my love grows stronger, and my devotion deeper. I promise to walk by your side forever, and to love, help and encourage you, in all you do. I promise you my unconditional love, and unwavering trust. May my love bring you joy, and give you strength. For whatever may come, I will be there always.**

**(rings are given to minister)**

**The wedding ring serves as a symbol of the promises you have just spoken. It is the outward and visible sign of an inward and invisible love, which binds your hearts together. It is made of precious metals that symbolize a love that is pure and enduring. It is made of rare gems that symbolize a love that is priceless and irreplaceable. It is made in a perfect circle that symbolizes a love that is permanent and everlasting. Whenever you look at this ring, may it forever remind you of the promises you have made this day to keep your love pure, priceless and everlasting.**

**(groom and bride place the ring on the others finger and repeat the vows)**

**(bride) (groom), as I place this ring on your finger, may it always remind you, of my never-ending love, and may it always remind me, of the precious treasure I have in you. Wear this ring with joy, for your love has made me complete.**

**Now, may all that you are, always be in love. May your love be as beautiful on each day you share, as it is on this day of celebration, and may each day you share, be as precious to you as the day when you first fell in love. May you always see and encourage the best in each other. May the challenges life brings your way, make your marriage even stronger. And, may you always be each other’s best friend and greatest love.**

**and , now that you have shared with each other these words of love and commitment, and we have witnessed the expression of your love as you have given each other these rings, then by the authority vested in me by the state of Ohio, as a minister of the gospel, it is with joy and happiness, that I now pronounce you husband and wife.**

**, you may now kiss your new bride.**

**Ladies and gentlemen, it is my privilege to introduce to you for the first time, Mr. and Mrs.**