

SAMPLE CEREMONY #3 (Jacob & Aubrey ORDER OF SERVICE)

A. CEREMONY INTRODUCTION

We are assembled in the sight of God and before this company to join together this man and this woman in holy matrimony. Traditionally, marriage ceremonies have said that each should love, honor and cherish the other until death parts them. In the light of the deeper meaning of the Scriptures, we would like to go a step further and state that a true Christian marriage means intimacy, openness, tenderness, respect, appreciation, self-giving, and at times, self-sacrifice for each other's welfare and happiness. With this attitude a union is formed that only death could sever.

Marriage is a joyous occasion, an institution of God; it's the uniting of two hearts and lives, and is not to be entered into inadvertently or lightly, but reverently and discreetly.

With That Said...**WHO GIVES THIS WOMAN TO BE MARRIED TO THIS MAN:**

“HER MOTHER AND I”

YOU MAY BE SEATED

B. COMMENTS FOR BRIDE AND GROOM

Can you believe this day is finally here? So many family and friends are here to witness and hold you to account in your confessions of love for each other and vows before them and the Lord today.

Jacob...Proverbs 18:22 says, “²² He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.”

Treat her as a gift; that is exactly what she is. Over the past few months as we walked through our marriage coaching meetings it has been fun to watch you both move from nervous, to sure! Your love for one another is evident, pure and selfless and you have the tools to live the rest of your days serving the other!

Listen to this Paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 13, the love passage in scripture and take to heart it's insight and challenge to you both as it pertains to your marriage.

Love is the greatest gift in the world. And, of all human love the wedded love between a man and a woman is the highest and most tender. Love can only be fulfilled in self forgetfulness and it's essence is sacrifice... to give up its treasure for another to find in such self surrender its richest blessing. 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 them no matter what the cost. You will always believe in them...always, expect the best of them, and always stand your ground in defending them. All the special gifts and powers from God will some day come to an end, but love goes on forever.

C. VOWS & RINGS

Now is the time when we give and exchange vows and rings. **Go ahead and grab those.** These rings are a symbol of the **COMMITMENT** you are making between each other. **LOOK AT THE RINGS FOR A MOMENT IN YOUR HADS BEFORE PLACING THEM ON EACH OTHER'S HANDS.** Endless circles, signifying unending and unqualified love. They are made of gold, a metal which when tried by fire, becomes purer, as will your love. In the giving and receiving of these vows and rings, you are pledging before God and these friends that you will keep the covenant and perform the vows that you have made

GROOM: (Aubrey), today I take you to be my (wife). Together we will create a home, becoming part of one another. I vow to help create a life we can cherish, inspiring your love for me, and mine for you. I vow to be honest, caring and respectful, to love you as you are and not as I want you to be, to grow old

by your side as your love and best friend. (PLACE THE RING ON HER FINGER) I give you this ring to wear with love and joy. As a ring has no end, neither will my love for you. I choose you to be my (wife) this day and forever more.

BRIDE: (Jacob), today I take you to be my (husband). Together we will create a home, becoming part of one another. I vow to help create a life we can cherish, inspiring your love for me, and mine for you. I vow to be honest, caring and respectful, to love you as you are and not as I want you to be, to grow old by your side as your love and best friend. (PLACE THE RING ON HIS FINGER) I give you this ring to wear with love and joy. As a ring has no end, neither will my love for you. I choose you to be my (husband) this day and forever more.

PRAY

UNITY CANDLE & SIGNATURE OF WEDDING CERTIFICATE

D. PRONOUNCEMENT

Now having committed yourselves to each other in openness, love and permanency, and having sealed these vows by giving and receiving rings, I do, by virtue and authority bestowed upon me as a minister of the Gospel, by the ordinances of God pronounce you husband and wife, in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Jacob, you may now kiss your bride

(Turn to people)

I would like to be the first to present to you **Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Short**

The Bride and Groom will be taking photos for a while, they have prepared a reception for you to enjoy and a photo guest book area, as they would love to see who was here to celebrate with them today.

The ushers will dismiss the family then signify when you can all be dismissed to the reception.

On behalf of the family once again, thank you to all who could make it today for this celebration!