



## Wedding #7 Personalized and with Transitions

### WELCOME AND OPENING WORDS

OFFICIANT: You were invited here to share this moment with (Couples Names) because you are the people who mean the most to them. The understanding and mutual respect that these two bring to their lives together had its roots in the love, friendship, and guidance you have given them. You are their community. They are honored to have you here.

### PRESENTATION OF PARTNER 1 AND PARTNER 2

We are also here today to acknowledge and celebrate the joining of a kind -hearted man and a sassy woman in marriage. Why's that?

Personalization: "Pam remembers when she first met Justin and how she told her Dad she thought he was crazy as a loon because he talked to birds. She told him about their conversation about taking walks in the woods and how he called out to the birds as the walked by. "But I kinda like that," she'd said. And her Dad told Pam, "Better to be talking to birds than pretending he is one! You may want to give this one a chance, hon. Seems like he has a soft spot for critters. He's got some kindness in his heart and that's a good thing. He'll need that to put up with a sassy woman like you are, honey."

Pam and Justin both love and respect Pam's father and mother as they support them on this adventure called marriage.

### PRESENTATION

Who brings PARTNER 1 to be married to PARTNER 2 in their mutual desire to be married?

ANSWER: Her mother and I do.



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## STATEMENT OF INTENTION

PARTNER 2, do you ask PARTNER 1 to be your wedded wife and promise before God and this company that you will love her, honor her and comfort her whether your life experience is filled with abundance or lack, health or sickness, joy or sorrow, forsaking all others as long as you both shall live? Do you promise to honor the earth and all its creatures that it may be preserved and protected your whole life through and to leave to your children and your children's children?

ANSWER: Yes.

And, PARTNER 1, do you grant PARTNER 2's request to be his wife?

ANSWER: I do.

PARTNER 1, do you ask PARTNER 2 to be your wedded husband and promise before God and this company that you will love him, honor him and comfort him whether your life experience is filled with abundance or lack, health or sickness, joy or sorrow, forsaking all others as long as you both shall live? Do you promise to honor the earth and all its creatures that it may be preserved and protected your whole life through and to leave to your children and your children's children?

ANSWER: Yes.

And, PARTNER 2, do you grant PARTNER 1's request to be her husband?

ANSWER: I do.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAMILY AND GUESTS

Do you, family and guests promise PARTNER 2 and PARTNER 1 your prayers, love and encouragement in their new life together, from this moment on? If so please answer together, "We will."

ANSWER: We will.

You have just stated your intentions to be there for one another. The following reading is an affirmation of the importance of your intentions and the task you take on yourselves as a married couple.

## READING – Navajo Prayer

When you were children, you talked like children, But now that you've grown, you should be done with childish things and put them away. When you were children, you looked into a mirror that gave only a blurred reflection of reality. But with love and maturity, you shouldn't be afraid to look into that mirror and see each other face to face. Be swift like the wind in loving each other. Be brave like the sea in loving each other. Be gentle like the breeze in loving each other. Be patient like the sun who waits and watches the four changes of the earth in loving each other. Be wise like the roaring of the thunder clouds and lightning in loving each other. Be shining like the morning dawn in loving each other. Be proud like the tree who stands without



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bending in loving each other. Be brilliant like the rainbow colors in loving each other. Now, forever, forever, there will be no more loneliness because your worlds are joined together with the world. Forever, forever.

## **VOWS**

PARTNER 2, please repeat after me: Insert vows of your couple's choice OR suggested:

PARTNER 2: PARTNER 1, I am now devoted to you and our relationship as your husband, from this day forward, to love, to cherish, to have and to hold, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, in sadness and in joy, to care and share together, as long as we both shall live.

PARTNER 1: PARTNER 2, I am now devoted to you and our relationship as your wife, from this day forward, to love, to cherish, to have and to hold, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, in sadness and in joy, to care and share together, as long as we both shall live.

## **MOMENT OF SILENCE OR PRAYER**

## **WEDDING ADDRESS**

A true and lasting love is more than verses on valentines, and romance in movies. It deserves our daily attention and devotion.

Jane Wells wrote in 1886, "Let your love be stronger than your hate or anger. Learn the wisdom of compromise, for it is better to bend a little than to break. Believe the best rather than the worst. People have a way of living up or down to your opinion of them. Remember that true friendship is the basis for any lasting relationship. The person you choose to marry is deserving of the courtesies and kindnesses you bestow on your friends.

Please hand this down to your children and your children's children [also]."

PARTNER 1 and PARTNER 2, this advice is just as true today as it was over one hundred years ago. Your marriage must stand, neither by the authority of the state nor by the words of the Officiant, but by the strength of your love and the power of faith in each other and in God. It is nurtured by your awe of the power and beauty of nature.

It should never be said of either of you that you show more concern for a friend than you do for each other. More kindness, gentleness, and concern needs to be shown in the privacy of your own home than anywhere else. Your home should be a haven from all the confusion and craziness the world can create. And faithfulness to each other each and every day is the primary ingredient that will produce the joy that you seek.



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### **EXCHANGE OF RINGS**

May I have the rings please as a token of devotion to your beloved?

Notice that these rings are a circle without beginning nor end. They are made of precious metal to represent the precious nature of your relationship. Whenever you look at these rings on your finger, may you recall this day and the love you have promised.

PARTNER 2, please put this ring on PARTNER 1's finger and repeat after me,  
I give you this ring as symbol of my love and commitment.

PARTNER 1, please put this ring on PARTNER 2's finger and repeat after me,  
I give you this ring as symbol of my love and commitment.

### **BLESSING OF THE RINGS**

Bless these rings, Creator of all living beings, of the sun, the moon, the earth, the skies, the water. May the giver and the receivers grow in the richness of Your Love, living together in growing appreciation and respect for each other and their relationship. Amen.

### **THE SAND CEREMONY**

Because of the bonds between each other, the couple will now symbolize the bond with their community in the Sand Ceremony.

PARTNER 2 and PARTNER 1, your marriage not only joins you together as a couple, it also joins your two families together in very unique and special relationships. In this bond, each of you may share many experiences as if they were one person. You will share celebrations and times of loss and grief. But while you will share life's unfoldment together, no matter how much you may feel one, you never lose your own identity. The miracle of love is that it allows us to overcome any sense of isolation, yet continues to permit us our individuality.

PARTNER 2 and PARTNER 1, the two colors of sand symbolize your separate lives and your separate families that you bring here today. The merging of your sand into the one indicates your desire for your lives, and the lives of your families and friends to be joined as one. I ask that you each take your sand and then pour it into the large single container.  
Sand is poured.

We know that it is the wish of each of us here, that you will continuously blend your families with love, sharing and happiness, so that there will always be light and joy, peace and harmony in all of your hearts and in all of your homes.

### **PRONOUNCEMENT AND KISS**

Now that you have proclaimed your vows and exchanged rings, please seal your commitment with a kiss.



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## **FORMAL INTRODUCTION OF THE NEWLYWEDS**

It is my honor and pleasure to introduce you to you as husband and wife, PARTNER 2 and PARTNER 2 Last Name.

Would the immediate family please remain close-by so that photos can be taken? Everyone else, please help yourself to refreshments and snacks. The couple and their wedding party will join you soon at the reception.

Have a fabulous celebration everyone. Thank you so much for being her for PARTNER 1 and PARTNER 2.



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