Wedding Script

Non-Denominational Script for a Traditional Wedding Ceremony

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Sample Wedding Ceremony Script
Bride: Laura       Groom: David

Opening Question

Who gives this woman to this man in marriage?

Message to Attendees

Dear family and friends, we are gathered here today to witness and celebrate the union of Laura and David in marriage.

Today is the day that they will formally and publicly make their promises and commitments to each other. And although this ceremony is definitely a high point in their relationship, marriage is a journey, not a destination. It’s more than any one event or promise. It’s a way of life. It’s a series of decisions that have been made, and will continue to be made, over and over again, every day, that reflect each person’s care and concern for the one they love most in the world.

As we begin the ceremony this afternoon, let us take a moment to reflect on the role we each play in their lives. You were all invited here for good reason. Laura and David have chosen you. You’re special and important in their
lives. They love you, they respect you and they trust you. And although today is obviously reserved for celebration, it’s also important to understand that by being here today, we each accept a certain responsibility to support them as they build their new life together.

Of course, I’m sure most of you have been to other weddings before. But for Laura and David, this is it!! This is THEIR wedding day. It’s one of the most important days in their lives and they’re sharing it with all of you. Life is all about moments, and this is definitely one of them, so thank you all for being here today.

[personal stories about Laura and David]

These stories are incredibly valuable. Yes, they bring back happy memories and they make people smile, but they also become part of the folklore of their marriage. These stories are told hundreds of times over the years, and they serve as the legend and mythology of their shared history. I’ve heard a lot of relationship stories over the years, and theirs is definitely better than most.

**Message to David and Laura**

And now to bride and groom, the time has come to forget all the stress of planning this day, and to soak up the love from each other and also from your family and friends.
During the time that you’ve been together, your love and understanding of each other have grown and matured and now, you’ve chosen to live your lives together as husband and wife.

As you know, marriage is so much more than a legal bond or a status for filing your taxes. It’s an extraordinarily special union shared by two people who both see that their own potential, their own goals, their own aspirations, as individuals, are greater when they share their lives with each other. It’s a public acknowledgement that they are truly better together than they were as individuals.

And over the months and years ahead, it’s the achievement of that potential, those goals, those aspirations, together as a couple, that will strengthen your marriage. You’ll develop your very own “secret alliance”, an alliance where you can always speak honestly with each other, confide in each other, laugh with each other and share moments of peace and love with each other.

David, take a moment and think about the quality you love most in Laura. And Laura, think about the quality you love most in David. When you meet with challenges in your new life together, as you undoubtedly will from time to time, try to always remember those qualities you love so much; the qualities that brought you here today.
In every minute of every day, we have a choice. We can focus on the positive or we can focus on the negative, and that simple rule of always focusing on the positive can make a huge difference in your relationship. One of the best things you can do for your marriage is to BRAG about your spouse. Focus on the things you love and share that pride with everyone you know.

We all know people in our lives who have been married for 30, 40 or even 50 years, and their lives are so completely intertwined that you could hardly imagine one without the other. I sometimes wonder if those couples realize how their enduring love for each other inspires everyone else around them. True love is inspirational. Love radiates! When you two love each other, you inspire all of your family and friends at the same time. You set an example for them to live up to.

And so I encourage you to love each other publicly. Take the magic of this day, where your love for each other is on full display, and keep it alive; carry it with you as you build your new life together.

**Wedding Vows**

The most important part of a wedding ceremony is the vows. From a legal perspective, the vows represent the Declaration of Intent which is oath you take in marriage.
Vows can take a number of different forms and Laura and David have selected the traditional format which many of you might already be familiar with.

So David, please repeat after me …

I, David, take thee, Laura, to be my lawful wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part.

And Laura, please repeat after me …

I, Laura, take thee, David, to be my lawful wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part.

**Ring Description**

This is the time for the ring exchange so David, give Laura your ring and keep hers yourself.

Wedding rings are precious because we wear them. Your rings declare publicly that as unique individuals, you have chosen to be bound together. They’re round of course, so they have no beginning and no end, which symbolizes that your love for each other also has no beginning and no end.
So David, place Laura’s ring on her finger and repeat after me ...

I, David, give you, Laura, this ring as an eternal symbol of my love and commitment to you.

And Laura, place David’s ring on his finger and repeat after me ...

I, Laura, give you, David, this ring as an eternal symbol of my love and commitment to you.

You place these rings upon each other’s hands as a visible reminder of the vows which, today, have given you the titles of husband and wife ... titles which say to the world: this is the one person that I choose to call my own, to hold above all others, today and for the rest of my life.

**Wedding Declaration**

Laura and David, with the vows you have just made and with the rings you have exchanged with each other, you have fulfilled the requirements of your wedding ceremony. So in the presence of your family and friends, by the power vested in me by the State of California, it is my sincere honor to declare that you are now husband and wife.
David, you may kiss your bride!

**First Introduction**

Ladies and gentlemen, I present to you, for the very first time, [chosen name format].