

## Non-Denominational Elopement

### **Opening Prayer**

'Our Father, love has been your richest and greatest gift to the world. Love between a man and a woman which matures into marriage is one of your most beautiful types of love. Today we celebrate this love. May your blessing be on this couple who stand before you today. Protect, guide and bless (Groom) and (Bride) in this marriage. Surround them and us with your love now and always, and let us say Amen.'

### **Address**

The key to love is inside us all – it takes time and patience to unlock all the ingredients that will take you to its threshold. It is the continual learning process that demands a lot of work...but the rewards are more than worth the effort – and that is the key to love. This is now your love, and our Blessings upon you today. Please face each other and join hands

### **Vows**

And now, in the presence of these guests and before God, we join this loving couple in Holy Marriage.

#### **Vows: (Choose One)**

Option 1: Your Own Vows

Option 2: I Do Vows:

(Groom) do you take (Bride) to be your wife, to live together in holy matrimony? To love, honor, and cherish her, to keep her in sickness and in health, for as long as you both shall live?

(Bride), do you take (Groom) to be your husband, to live together in holy matrimony? To love, honor, and cherish him, to keep him in sickness and in health, for as long as you both shall live?

Option 3: Repeat After Vows:

(Groom), repeat after me: I (groom), take you (bride) to be my wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do us part.

(Bride), repeat after me: I (Bride), take you (Groom) to be my husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do us part.

### **Rings:**

"The exchange of wedding rings is a visible symbol of an inward bond which unites two loyal hearts in endless love. It is the seal of the vows you two have just made to one another. It symbolizes living together in unity, love and happiness for the rest of your lives.

(Bride): "Place the band on (Grooms) ring finger and repeat after me: "With this ring I thee wed."

(Groom): "Place the band on (Brides) ring finger and repeat after me: "With this ring I thee wed."

"May this covenant of two hearts in love be everlasting."

**Closing:**

“Treat yourselves and each other with respect, and remind yourselves often of what brought you together. Give the highest priority to the tenderness, gentleness and kindness that your connection deserves. When frustration, difficulty and fear assail your relationship – as they threaten all relationships at one time or another – remember to focus on what is right between you, not only the part which seems wrong. In this way, you can ride out the storms when clouds hide the face of the sun in your lives – remembering that even if you lose sight of it for a moment, the sun is still there. And if each of you takes responsibility for the quality of your life together, it will be marked by abundance and delight.”

**Pronouncement**

By virtue of the power vested in, I hereby proclaim you (Groom) and (Bride), to be Husband and Wife.

“May God bless you for all the days of your life, May God Grant you Peace. Amen”

**Kiss**

You may kiss your Bride