

# Sample 1

Non-Religious with Samoan reference



## Welcome & Opening

Talofa lava, family and friends — welcome.

We are here today to celebrate one of life's greatest adventures: Marriage. In particular the marriage of [Partner 1] and [Partner 2]. This is not just a formal celebration, but a deeply personal moment to honor a relationship built on laughter, strength, and shared dreams.

You've been invited not just as witnesses, but as a community of support. Your love and continued encouragement of this bold and beautiful couple, will forever be appreciated and cherished.

We Celebrate their love that is proven, and continues to be resilient, playful, and strong — a partnership built on trust, respect, and love. We are all honored to share in the happiness that surrounds them.

## Love & Partnership

Every love story is unique, and [Partner 1] and [Partner 2]'s stands out for its natural ease. Their connection from the beginning has been filled with comfort, full of laughter, and alive with an energy that brings out the best in each of them.

They share passions — from fitness to video games, manga, and Korean BBQ dinners — but what truly sets them apart is how they lift each other up. Always reaching for a new level and making sure they hit their goals together. They strengthen each other's confidence, determination, and joy. They remove self doubt, and build trust every day.

Marriage, at its heart, is partnership. For [Partner 1] and [Partner 2], that looks like cheering each other on at the gym, staying up late for just one more round of Fortnite, relaxing after a long week, and facing big, and small, challenges together.

As some of you know, they will soon be joining the Marines, a path that demands courage, focus, and grit. Their relationship has already been a training ground — developing endurance through patience, strength through teamwork, and resilience through shared goals.

Today, they stand ready to begin this next chapter in matrimony, as true teammates, partners in every sense of the word.

## Declaration of Intent

Marriage is a choice. It is a daily commitment to stand together through life's challenges and triumphs, to listen and to communicate openly, and to offer selfless support. It is about showing up for one another, in both ordinary moments and great adventures, with patience, kindness, and love.

With that understanding:

[Partner 2], do freely and wholeheartedly, pledge your love and commitment to [Partner 1], from this day and forevermore?"

"I do.

[Partner 1], do freely and wholeheartedly, pledge your love and commitment to [Partner 2], from this day and forevermore?"

"I do."

## Vows

You have both chosen to write your own vows and declared commitment to one another.

[Partner 2], will you please share your oath to [Partner 1]?

[\[Read/Recite vows\]](#)

[Partner 1], will you please share your oath to [Partner 2]?

[Read/Recite vows]

#### Exchange of Rings

May I have the rings, please?

These rings are circles — no beginning, no end. They remind us that marriage, like strength, is built over time, through dedication, effort, care and love. Qualities you both possess and offer to each other. Today, and every day after.

[Partner 2], as you place this ring on [Partner 1]’s finger, repeat after me:

“I give you this ring as a symbol of my promise to stand beside you. I give you my commitment of love, support, and loyalty, today and always, as your husband.”

[Partner 1], as you place this ring on [Partner 2]’s finger, repeat after me:

“I give you this ring as a symbol of my promise to stand beside you. I give you my commitment of love, support, and loyalty, today and always, as your wife.”

#### Reflection & Blessing

There is a Samoan proverb that says: *‘E galulue fa’atasi e malosi ai’* — ‘Working together brings strength.

’Marriage is not perfection — it is practice. It is showing up each day with strength, patience, humility, and love. There will be challenges, long days, and uncertainty. But there will also be laughter, simple joys, and a partner to share it all with. You have already seen each other at your limits and know how to support one another. Your foundation is strong. May you continue to build your life together on that strength, may your laughter be abundant, and may your love remain unshakable.

Together, may you face life’s battles and adventures, always stronger side by side.

#### Pronouncement & Kiss

[Partner 1] and [Partner 2], you have declared your vows, and exchanged rings in the presence of your family and friends. It is my honor, by the power vested in me by the state of California and the Universal Life Church, to pronounce you husband and wife.

[Partner 2], you may kiss your bride!

*(Pause for kiss and applause.)*

#### Presentation of the Couple

It is my greatest joy to introduce, for the first time — Mr. and Mrs. [Surname].

# Sample 2

Religious with reference to individual hardship



## Welcome

Welcome friends and family.

As you know the bride and groom wanted this to be a sacred moment blessed to have those truly closest to them present to witness and to celebrate their love. On behalf of the bride and groom, thank you for making the journey here to support them.

Now, If you will all please bow your heads and join me in prayer.

## Prayer

## Vows

Today is a moment of joy, of deep meaning, and of promises made with full hearts. Marriage is built on love, trust, and partnership. You have both chosen to write your own vows as a symbol of your commitment to one another.

[Partner 2], will you please share your oath to [Partner 1]

[Partner 1], please share your oath to [Partner 2].

## Reflection

Today we celebrate not just the joining of two lives, but the journey that has brought you together. Your paths have not been without trials. In fact, it is through life's fires, through moments of hardship, challenge, and difficult choices, that each of you has been carefully shaped by the loving hand of God. As iron in a forge, you have been tested and strengthened. Not to break you, but to prepare you.

*"The testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."* — James 1:3–4

Every decision, every step, every surrender; God has used it all to refine your hearts, to temper your character, and to prepare you to be perfect and complete, not alone, but for each other.

And now, as you step into this new chapter, you do so renewed. Not as unfinished pieces, but as two instruments shaped for a purpose, ready to walk forward in unity, strength, and love.

However, forging is only the beginning. Marriage is the sacred space where you will continue to grow together. Where you will sharpen one another's character, polish away doubt, and draw out the best in each other.

*"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."* — Proverbs 27:17

This is not the end of your transformation, but the beginning of a shared commitment: to see each other fully, and to love each other completely.

May you hold each other accountable with kindness. Refine each other with patience. Rely on each other with grace.

Day by day, you will continue to reveal the true strength, beauty, and purpose God placed within you both.

## Declaration of Intent

[Partner 2], would you please take [Partner 1]'s hands

[Partner 2], do you take [Partner 1] to be your lawfully wedded wife, To have and to hold, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, from this day and forevermore?

- I do

[Partner 1], do you take, [Partner 2], to be your lawfully wedded Husband, To have and to hold, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, from this day and forevermore?

- I do

## Rings

Love freely given has no beginning and no end. The ring is a tiny but mighty symbol of the never-ending eternal love and commitment you have for one another. You have chosen to exchange rings as a sign of your love, and as a seal of the promises you make this day. Let these rings be a daily reminder of your promise to love without reservation, to comfort in times of distress, to laugh, and to stand together through all of life's challenges and victories.

[Partner 2], please place this ring on [Partner 1]'s finger. ...repeat after me:

With this ring, I, thee wed. I give myself as your husband, to love and cherish you, to respect and honor you. I give you my heart, my faith, and my love, for all the days of my life.

[Partner 1], please place this ring on [Partner 2]'s finger. ... repeat after me:

With this ring, I, thee wed. I give myself as your wife, to love and cherish you, to respect and honor you. I give you my heart, my faith, and my love, for all the days of my life.

## Closing Remarks

Marriage is not just the beginning of your refinement, it is the fruit of it.

May all who bear witness today, see them now, joined in holy matrimony. Finely honed, strong, yet forged with humility, and tempered by love.

## Pronouncement

It is my greatest pleasure, with the power vested in me by the Universal Life Church and the State of California, to pronounce you husband and wife.

[Partner 2] you may kiss your bride.

I present to you for the first time [Partner 1] & [Partner 2] as a married couple!!

# Sample 3

## Religious Elopement



### Welcome

Welcome Family and friend. We are gathered here today to witness the sacred union of [Partner 2] and [Partner 1] in holy matrimony. We stand here to honor and celebrate the love shared between them and the vows they are about to make, surrounded by those closest to them. We take a moment to appreciate the support from family that is not able to be with us today. While their presence is greatly missed, their continued encouragement and love are deeply felt.

If anyone here believes these two should not be wed. Please, speak now or forever hold your peace.

### Prayer

#### Reflections on Marriage and Warm Wishes

Today is a moment of joy, of deep meaning, and of promises made with full hearts. Marriage is built on love, trust, and partnership. It is choosing one another every day, standing side by side through life's joys and challenges, and embracing the journey ahead with an open heart.

Sometimes it will be like a day at the beach with perfect weather and great music, and sometimes like trying to put together IKEA furniture without instructions. But through love, patience, and many many coffee breaks, you make it work.

As we witness this union, we celebrate not only the love that [Partner 2] and [Partner 1] share today, but also the life they will build together in the days and years to come.

[Partner 2] and [Partner 1], as you begin this new chapter of your lives, remember the journey that brought you here. Cherish the memories you've created and look forward to the countless more you'll make. Your love story is a testament to the power of growing together. And may your shared laughter, inside jokes, fresh flowers, and your deep understanding of one another continue to be the cornerstone of your relationship.

[Partner 1], In [Partner 2] you have found a patient, loyal and really really really ridiculously good looking companion.

[Partner 2], In Liuba you have found a reflection of yourself, devotion, and an unparalleled ambition for success.

Together, you will undoubtedly support and achieve each other's dreams.

### Vows

Your vows are to be spoken today. However, lived-out each day in small moments of kindness, patience and love. You are bound to one another, and joined, as Adam and Eve, to one spirit.

As is written in Genesis 2:21-24

"In the garden of Eden, while Adam was sleeping, God took one of Adam's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to Adam.

Adam said, This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman, for she was taken out of man. That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh."

Today, in this lovely garden, you are joining together and will both be made whole with the vows you are about to take.

[Partner 2], please take [Partner 1]'s hands

[Partner 2], do you take [Partner 1] to be your lawfully wedded wife, To have and to hold, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, from this day and forevermore.

- *I Do*

[Partner 1], do you take, [Partner 2], to be your lawfully wedded Husband. To have and to hold, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, from this day and forevermore.

- *I Do*

### Rings

Love freely given has no beginning and no end. The ring is a tiny but mighty symbol of the never-ending eternal love and commitment you have for one another. You have chosen to exchange rings, as a sign of your eternal love for each other, and as a seal of the promises you make this day.

Let these rings be a daily reminder of your promise to love without reservation, to comfort in times of distress, to laugh, and to stand together through all of life's challenges and victories.

[Partner 2], please place the ring on [Partner 1]'s hand. ...repeat after me:

*With this ring, I thee wed. I give myself as your husband, to love and cherish you, to respect and honor you. I give you my heart, my faith, and my love, for all the days of my life.*

[Partner 1], please place the ring on [Partner 2]'s hand. ... repeat after me:

*With this ring, I thee wed. I give myself as your wife, to love and cherish you, to respect and honor you. I give you my heart, my faith, and my love, for all the days of my life.*

### Pronouncement

By the power vested in me by the Universal Life Church and the State of California, it is now my pleasure to pronounce you husband and wife. [Partner 2] you may kiss your bride.

### Presentation of the Couple

I present to you for the first time Mr. & Mrs. [Surname]!