

# Meaningful Ceremonies

a personally written ceremony by meaningful ceremonies



## **Bobbie's opening remarks (1.5 min):**

We are gathered here today to celebrate one of life's greatest moments, the joining of two hearts and two lives.

In this ceremony, we are coming together to witness the joining in marriage of (bride and groom) Out of the routine of ordinary life, the extraordinary has happened. (Bride and Groom) met and fell in love.

Romance is wonderful, but true love is something even greater, the desire to love each other for a lifetime.

(Bride and Groom) share the same values, including honesty, kindness, passion, and a love of adventure. Scott adores how compassionate, playful and accomplished (Bride) is. And (Bride) loves how affectionate, considerate and humorous (Groom) is.

(Bride and Groom) make a great team, and they love sharing all of life's experiences. They are so very happy to have found each other and look forward with great excitement to living together and raising a family in their new home.

## **Apache Readings by Bride's Aunt (1.5 min):**

**Bobbie will ask Brides Aunt and niece to stand together to read the following:**

Brides Aunt : Apache Blessing Part 1:

Now you will feel no rain,  
For each of you will be shelter for the other.  
Now you will feel no cold,  
For each of you will be warmth to the other.  
Now there will be no loneliness,  
For each of you will be companion to the other.  
Now you are two persons,  
But there is only one life before you.  
May beauty surround you both in the  
Journey ahead and through all the years.  
May happiness be your companion and  
Your days together be good and long upon the earth.

**young niece:** I love you (Bride and Groom)

**Bobbie says the following (<1 min):**

A good marriage must be created.  
In a marriage, the "little" things are the big things.  
It is not only marrying the right person -- it is being the right person.  
It is remembering to say, "I love you", at least once a day.  
It is never going to sleep angry.  
It is standing together and facing the world.  
It is speaking words of appreciation and gratitude.  
It is having the capacity to forgive and forget.  
It is giving each other space in which each can grow.  
It is a joint search for the good and the beautiful.

**vocalist(1 min):**

Singing: The Daisies by Samuel Barber (with harp)

**Candle ritual (2-3 min, reading <2min):**

The table will already be present.

**Bobbie says:**

I will now invite your parents to stand behind you at this moment.

(Bride and Groom) as you light these candles, each represents the light of your own individual lives.

Take a moment to reflect on all you have done to bring you both to this moment of love and union, on all the goals you have met in your life, both personally and professionally, and on all the love and support you have received from your family and friends along the way.

The candle in the middle of this table represents the new journey of your lives together, a symbol of the bond of marriage and start of a family.

At the same time, bring your individual life flame to the turquoise middle candle as the flames touch, take a moment to feel the beautiful love and admiration you have for one another... may this one flame represent your Union, your marriage, and the bringing together of your individual lives in love and bonding friendship.

Now, will (Bride) and her parents please hold a candle and (Groom) and his parents hold a candle together.

Now with your parents, bring the individual life flame to the rock middle candle as the flames touch, take a moment to feel the beautiful love from each of your family... how this one flame represents your Union and bond as your families become one.

Vocalist (2 min):

Singing: A Banjo Song by Sidney Homer (with harp)

Inspired by the 7 Jewish Blessings (2min):

Bobbie: The 7 Jewish Blessings expresses such themes as joy, humanity and the timeless quality of two people loving each other. The following 2 blessings, which are inspired by this special Jewish tradition, reflect these beautiful themes. We would like to invite (Bride and Groom) family and friends to recite these blessings which you will find in the program on page 3.

One of the 7 Jewish Blessings:

Bobbie: I would like to ask Scott's loved ones, both family and friends, to read the following blessing:

We bless You, Adonai, Source of Joy, who has created each of these two people, their delight and their happiness, their rejoicing and singing, dancing and festivity, love and friendship, peace and pleasure. Let the mountains of Israel dance. Let the gates of Jerusalem ring with the sounds of joy, song, merriment, and delight – the voice of the groom and the voice of the bride, the happy shouts of their family and friends. Blessed are You, Joyful One, who brings this bride and groom together to rejoice in each other.

Apache Blessing Part 2:

**Bobbie:** I would like to ask (Brides) loved ones, both family and friends, to read the Apache blessing that appears in your ceremony leaflet.

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, difficulties 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

**Vows by Bobbie** (1-2 min)

(Bride and Groom) face each other and hold hands:

(Bride) **repeats after Bobbie:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you \_\_\_\_\_ to be my Husband, my partner in life, my soulmate, and my one true love. I will cherish our friendship and love you today, tomorrow, and forever.

(Groom) **repeats after Bobbie:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ take you \_\_\_\_\_ to be my Wife, my partner in life, my soulmate, and my one true love. I will cherish our friendship and love you today, tomorrow, and forever.

**Bobbie says:** (Bride and Groom) please take out your personal wedding vows, Karen please go first, then Scott:

**Vows by (Bride and Groom)** (3 min):

Bride will read her personal vows to Groom

Groom will read his personal vows to Bride

Rings (1-2 min):

## **Bobbie asks for the rings**

### **Bobbie says to (Bride):**

This ring is a symbol of an unbroken circle of love, by placing it on (Grooms) finger let it be a reminder of your commitment and everlasting love. (Bride) places ring on (Grooms) left ring finger.

### **Bobbie says to Groom:**

**(Groom)** Do you promise to love, honor, cherish and protect her, forsaking all others and holding only unto her forevermore?

Groom: I do

**Bobbie says to (Groom):** This ring is a symbol of an unbroken circle of love, by placing it on (Brides) finger let it be a reminder of your commitment and everlasting love. (Groom) places ring on (Brides) left ring finger.

### **Bobbie says to (Bride):**

(Bride), do you take (Groom) to be your Husband?

Bride: I do

Do you promise to love, honor, cherish and protect him, forsaking all others and holding only unto him forevermore?

Bride: I do

Pronouncement: (before the breaking of the glass)

End of wedding ceremony (10 seconds):

**Bobbie says:** By the power vested in me, I now pronounce you, Husband and Wife. You may kiss one another.

Breaking of the glass (1-2 min): **Bobbie places glass on the floor**

**Bobbie says:** At this time of great happiness, breaking of the glass reminds us of the sufferings of the Jewish people, starting with the destruction of the 2nd temple of Jerusalem. However, it also reminds us that working through challenges and celebrating the success of life is best done together, bringing us back to the happiness of our union.

(Bride and Groom) break glass (1) together

(Bride and Groom) turn to leave the hoopah:

Star Wars theme to walk down the aisle together

Total Time (rounding up): 21 Minutes

