

Suggested Vows and Ring Texts for Liturgies of Christian Marriage

VOWS

- (1) I take you, _____, to be my wife/husband from this day forward, to join with you and share all that is to come, and I promise to be faithful to you until death parts us.
- (2) I take you, _____, to be my wife/husband, I promise before God and these witnesses to be your faithful husband/wife, to share with you in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, to forgive and strengthen you, and to join with you so that together we may serve God and others as long as we both shall live.
- (3) _____, I take you to be my wife/husband from this time onward, to join with you and to share all that is to come, to give and to receive, to speak and to listen, to inspire and to respond, and in all circumstances of our life together to be loyal to you with my whole life and with all my being until death parts us.
- (4) I, _____, give you my hand this day. I open my mouth to declare before God, our ancestors, and this congregation, that I take you, _____, to be my wife/husband. I love you. In bitter days and in days of sweetness, in darkness and in light, in life and until death, I will walk in step with you. Your concerns will be my concerns. Your joys will be my joys. We will share our struggles, and we will share our triumphs. I will be with you all the days of my life. This is my vow. I have spoken.
- (5) I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wife/husband. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you all the days of my life.
- (6) I, _____, take you, _____, for my lawful wife/husband, to have and to hold, for this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part.

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- (7) I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wife/husband; and I promise, before God and these witnesses, to be your loving and faithful husband/wife; in plenty and in want; in joy and in sorrow; in sickness and in health; as long as we both shall live.
- (8) Before God and these witnesses, I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wife/husband, and I promise to love you, and to be faithful to you, as long as we both shall live
- (9) In the presence of God and this community, I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wife/husband; to have and to hold from this day forward, in joy and in sorrow, in plenty and in want, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, as long as we both shall live. This is my solemn vow.
- (10) In the Name of God, I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wife/husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better and for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until we are parted by death. This is my solemn vow.
- (11) *Or most traditionally, the source of most all English language vows:*
I, _____, take thee, _____, to be my wedded wife/husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I (plight) (give) thee my troth.
- (12) I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wife/husband. I promise to love you, comfort you, honor and keep you, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, to be faithful to you as long as we both shall live.
- (13) I, _____, with love and joy and an honest and open spirit, make with you, _____, this covenant of marriage before God and this community of friends and family. I promise to love and trust you, as we share hopes and failures, and to support and encourage you so that we might grow individually and as a couple. I promise also to nurture you with faith and tenderness in the name of Christ. I shall always try to speak the truth to you and to listen with utmost concern for

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your desires and needs. I promise to be faithful to you and this pledge throughout our lives.

- (14) I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wife/husband; to be faithful to you in tender love and honor, offering you encouragement and companionship; and I will live with you, and cherish you, as love and respect lead me, in the bond of marriage.
- (15) I take you, _____, to be my wife/husband, and these things I promise you: I will be faithful to you and honest with you; I will [obey,] respect, trust, help and care for you; I will share my life with you; I will forgive you as we have been forgiven; and I will try with you better to understand ourselves, the world, and God; through the best and worst of what is to come until death parts us.
- (16) I take you, _____, to be my wife/husband, I promise before God and these witnesses to be your faithful husband/wife, to share with you in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, to forgive and strengthen you, and to join with you so that together we may serve God and others as long as we both shall live.
- (17) _____, I take you to be my wife/husband from this time onward, to join with you and to share all that is to come, to give and to receive, to speak and to listen, to inspire and to respond, and in all circumstances of our life together to be loyal to you with my whole life and with all my being until death parts us.
- (18) _____, I promise to share with you the sweet things of life as well as the bitter, to love you and enjoy you, to respect and encourage you, to listen to you and promise to strive for a life of courage, faithfulness, and dignity, and to seek understanding among all people, for as long as we both shall live. In all this, I ask God to help and guide us.
- (19) _____, I want to live with you just as you are. I will be honest with you and forgive you... I love you for what you are to me and for what you are to others... I choose you above all others, and promise to be faithful to you as long as life endures.

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- (20) I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wife/husband from this day forward; to be with you forever in times of joy and suffering, wealth and poverty; I pledge you my honor, patience and faithfulness, and by the grace of God offer you my unending love.
- (21) I take you, _____, to be my wife/husband. I promise before God and before this community to be faithful to you and to share all that is to come. In times of happiness I will share your joy and laughter. In times of sorrow, I will share your tears and pain. I will forgive as I have been forgiven. I will love as I have been loved. I will join with you so that together we may serve God and others as long as we both shall live.
- (22) I, _____, take you, _____, to be my spouse, to have and to hold from this day forward; for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy law; and this is my solemn vow.
- (23) I, _____, having full confidence that our abiding faith in each other will last our lifetimes, take you, _____, to be my wedded wife/husband; I promise to be your loving and faithful husband/wife; in prosperity and in need, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, and to respect your privileges as an individual as long as we both shall live.
- (24) I, _____, give myself to you, _____. By the grace of God, I promise to support and care for you. In the love of Christ, I promise to love and cherish you. With the Spirit's help, I promise to be faithful to you, as long as we both shall live.
- (25) I take you, _____, to be my wife/husband, and these things I promise you: I will be faithful to you and honest with you; I will respect, trust, help, and care for you; I will forgive you as we have been forgiven; and I will share my life with you, through the best and worst of all that is to come, until death parts us.

General counsel about composing original vows or modifying vows:

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- The primary promise in Christian marriage is faithfulness to one another.
- Keep your vows simple as possible. You'll be living with them the rest of your life!
- Don't promise anything that is impossible. Avoid words like forever, never, only, always.

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RING TEXTS

Below are suggested ring texts:

- (1) I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.
- (2) _____, take this ring as a sign of my love and fidelity.
- (3) I give/take this ring as a sign of our covenant.
- (4) This ring I give you, as a sign of our constant faith and abiding love.
- (5) _____, I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow, and with all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you.
- (6) _____, I give you this ring, as a sign of the covenant we have made today.
- (7) As this ring has no end, my love for you has no end.
- (8) I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage. With my body I honor you, all that I am I give to you, and all that I have I share with you, within the love of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- (9) _____, I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow. With all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



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