

READING: The Art of Marriage

Happiness in marriage is not something that just happens.
A good marriage must be created. In marriage the little things are the big things.

It is never being too old to hold hands.

It is remembering to say "I love you" at least once a day.

It is never going to sleep angry.

It is at no time taking the other for granted; the courtship should not end with the honeymoon, it should continue through the years.

It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives.

It is standing together facing the world. It is forming a circle of love that gathers the whole family.

It is doing things for each other, not in the attitude of duty or sacrifice, but in the spirit of joy.

It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.

It is not looking for perfection in each other.

It is cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding and a sense of humour.

It is having the capacity to forgive and forget.

It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow old.

It is a common search for the good and the beautiful.

It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal, dependence is mutual and the obligation is reciprocal.

It is not only marrying the right partner; it is being the right partner.

HYMN: Give Me Joy

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
give me joy in my heart, I pray;
give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
keep me praising till the break of day:

Refrain:

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King!

Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
give me peace in my heart, I pray;
give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
keep me loving till the break of day: [Refrain]
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
give me love in my heart, I pray;
give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
keep me serving till the break of day: [Refrain]

PRAYERS

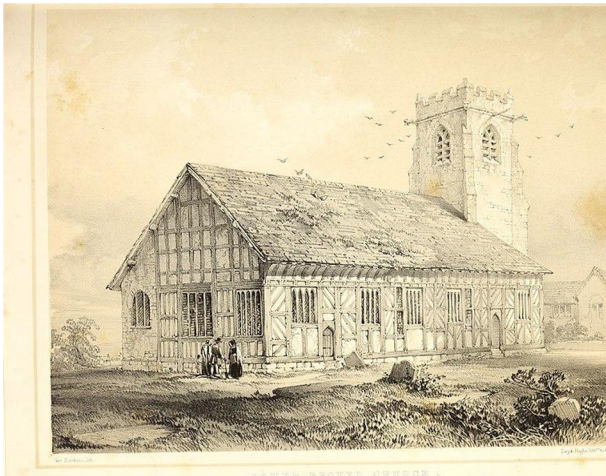
COUPLES PROMISES

THE BLESSING OF ENGAGEMENT RINGS

THE LORD`S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COUPLES PRAYER OF BLESSING



HYMN: One more step along the world I go

One more step along the world I go, one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new, keep me travelling along with you:

Refrain:

And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

Round the corners of the world I turn, more and more about the world I
learn;

all the new things that I see you'll be looking at along with me. [Refrain]

As I travel through the bad and good, keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go you'll be telling me the way, I know. [Refrain]

Give me courage when the world is rough, keep me loving though the world
is tough;

leap and sing in all I do, keep me travelling along with you. [Refrain]

You are older than the world can be, you are younger than the life in me;
ever old and ever new, keep me travelling along with you. [Refrain]

GENERAL BLESSING AND DISMISSAL