

RENEWAL MINISTRIES of Colorado Springs

Service for Renewing of Vows

Pastor George M. Stahnke July 27, 2002

Words of greeting: We are gathered together on this special occasion with thanksgiving for God's good gift of Christian marriage. We come to recognize and renew the marriage vows that _____ and _____ had originally taken on _____ 19____. We come to ask God's blessing on their marriage as they look to the future.

Holy Matrimony was instituted by God, is regulated by His commandments, and was blessed by our Lord Jesus Christ; so it should be held in honor among all people. Let us therefore remember that God has established and set forth marriage for the welfare and happiness of the human family.

Therefore our Savior has declared that a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. In the New Testament our Lord has instructed those who enter marriage to cherish one another in mutual esteem and love; to share in each other's infirmities and weaknesses; to comfort each other in sickness, trouble and sorrow; to provide for each other; to pray for and encourage each other; and to live together as heirs of the grace of God.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT) Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. ⁶It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. ⁷Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

Prayer: Heavenly Father we acknowledge that you have designed the pattern of the family to include marriage that endures through the changes of the years. We thank you for _____ and _____, who celebrate ____ years of married life together. We praise you for the commitment that binds their hearts in Christian love, for the way You have enabled them to keep their vows through all the circumstances of life. We ask that you would bless them with continued health. We pray for their children (and grandchildren) that from this example they would each be encouraged to have committed marriages and Christian homes. Use this time of renewal to encourage and strengthen each of us who are present here today. May we be given renewed grace to serve you for all the days of our life. This we pray in the Name of Jesus Christ our creator and redeemer. Amen.

Renewal of Vows: (please face each other, hold hands, and repeat after me)

Man: I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wedded wife. I promise and covenant anew, before God and these witnesses, to be your loving and faithful husband, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, for as long as we both shall live.

Woman: I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wedded Husband. I promise and covenant anew, before God and these witnesses, to be your loving and faithful wife, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, for as long as we both shall live.

Prayers of response: Invite family members, witnesses, or the couple to pray.

Benediction:

Numbers 6:24-26 (NLT) 'May the LORD bless you and protect you.²⁵May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you.²⁶May the LORD show you his favor and give you his peace.'