

Worship Plan and Commentary for a Wedding Worship Service

by

K-Worship (Korean Worship Team)

CD 766.RA- Worship in the Korean Context

Fall, 2006

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Due and Submitted on: Nov. 15, 2006

I. Prelude 3:00 – 3:05 p.m.

Light music played by the pianist

II. Lighting of the candles 3:05 – 3:08 p.m.

Lighting by the mothers of the bride and groom

Instrumental music continues

III. Processional

Groom walks in. Groomsmen follow groom while walking
and singing to piano accompaniment 3:08 – 3:10 p.m.

“Up, and Fight Against the Devil” (chorus only)

Bridesmaids walk in 3:10 -3:12 p.m.

Groomsmen continue to sing as bridesmaids walk in

IV. Bride’s entrance 3:12-3:15 p.m.

“Wedding March” instrumental song played by piano

V. Hymn 3:15-3:20 p.m.

Hymn, “Joy and Praise This Day Confessing” (287)

VI. Invocation Prayer 3:20-3:22 p.m.

VII. Bible Reading 3:22-3:25 p.m.

Ephesians 5:22-33

VIII. Sermon 3:25-3:38 p.m.

“Love and Submit To One Another” by Daniel Lee

IV. Exchanging Of Vows and Rings 3:38-3:43 p.m.

V. Declaration of Marriage 3:43-3:44 p.m.

VVI. Soloist 3:44-3:48 p.m.

Song: “Eternity”

VVII. Bowing To Family And Friends	3:49-3:51 p.m.
VVIII. Benediction	3:51-3:52 p.m.
VVIV. Recessional	3:52-3:54 p.m.
VVV. Announcements	3:54-3:57 p.m.

Commentary

Overall context:

The controlling theme of this service is about how the marriage relationship reflects and illustrates the relationship of Christ (Husband) to the Church (Bride). "Total dependence upon God ."

This wedding service is designed to move along at a brisk pace. We did not want anything to drag because a long wedding ceremony can sap the vitality of this most treasured event. Since the size of the classroom does not simulate an actual chapel in scale of course the service will be shorter when we put it on inside the classroom. This is because when the wedding party is walking in they tend to walk slowly from the back of the chapel to the front. Our classroom is small so it will not take a long time for them to walk up to the front. The service will be closer to 45 minutes then the allotted hour.

I. Prelude

This musical prelude is to set a calm, peaceful and classical tone to the start of the wedding. As guests have now found and settled into their seats, they are welcomed by beautiful instrumental music as they sit meditatively in their seats. Although it is calm, it does build anticipation of what is to come.

II. Lighting of the candles

The mothers of the bride and groom approach the front and light a candle each to symbolize the lives that they, with God's grace, were able to bring into the world.

III. Processional

The groom walks in. The groomsmen follow the groom in walking into the room. Instead of the traditional instrumental music, the groomsmen sing as they walk in to enliven the atmosphere and to bless the occasion. Typically, we never hear from the groomsmen during the ceremony but in this instance it symbolizes also that the groomsmen are indeed standing with and in support of the groom and bride. It reflects the unique personality of the couple who want a less traditional element for the start of the ceremony.

The bridesmaids walk in with the groomsmen still singing in the background. The bridesmaids are being honored by the song as they walk in.

IV. Brides Entrance

Everyone stands as the bride walks in. This is to honor and appreciate the dignity and beauty of this bride. In the Bible, the wife represents the church and in the end days, the church will be spotless and will be wearing white for the wedding. She has a glory given by God that is to be recognized. The piano plays as the bride walks in accompanied by her father. Symbolically, Father God has prepared a Bride for His Son, Jesus Christ.

V. Hymn

A hymn is sung by all to honor God and immediately orient their hearts towards Him during this sacred and celebrative occasion.

VI. Invocation Prayer

A prayer is prayed as we dedicate this moment to God at the start of the wedding ceremony.

VII. Bible Reading

A Bible passage relevant to the message and controlling theme is read. Ephesians 5:22-25.

Since marriage is God's idea, it is most appropriate to study together the Bible to understand and for the couple to build a solid foundation for marriage.

VIII. Sermon

The sermon is not only to exhort the couple who is to get married but the proclamation of God's Word is also to serve as a reminder for all those in attendance. If they are married it serves as an encouragement to continue to build and excel in their marriage relationship. For those who are single, they are to view the solemn privilege of marriage in light of God's perspective and mandates. The message during a wedding service is a wonderful time for everyone to reflect on their marriage or their desire to get married. Also, it serves to remind everyone that for a married couple to thrive it takes a network of supportive family and friends to help them succeed. As a community, by attending this ceremony, we are in effect committing to love, nurture, bless and pray for the young couple every step of the way.

VIV. Exchanging of Vows and Rings

The exchanging of vows is the time when the couple is formally taking up their commitment to each other before God. This is their signing on the dotted line of their marriage contract per se. This is the first time we hear the voices of the couple as they publicly promise to God and to everyone in the room of their fidelity in becoming the best husband or wife they can be with God's strength. They exchange rings to symbolize their commitment in a visible way

to each other and to all.

VV. Declaration of Marriage

The pastor now pronounces that the couple in the sight of God and in the sight of people is married. This public declaration blesses, seals and warns everyone involved- “that which God has joined together let no man or woman separate”. Again, in this, we are to support the couple in succeeding in marriage. They are not in it alone!

VVI. Soloist Song

A soloist will sing a song to commemorate this solemn and beautiful moment of the finished vows by the couple. This song “Eternity” was chosen because the controlling theme was that a wedding ceremony foreshadows the wedding of the Lamb and His Bride. The song actually is not focused on the married couple, it speaks of the yearning we, as Christians, have to be forever with Jesus, our Husband. Although, we are at one of the most important moments in the couple’s lives, by worshiping in this way, we are still saying that this is secondary to being with Jesus and at His wedding feast of the Lamb. In a real sense, this wedding points to the Wedding to come.

VVII. Bowing To Family And Friends

The bowing to family and friends is a cultural tradition to show deep respect, thanks and honor to the important people in the couple’s lives, in particular to their parents. Filial piety is one of the cornerstone values of the traditional Korean culture.

VVIII. Benediction

A pastor gives the benediction as a final blessing to the couple and everyone in the room to most appropriately conclude the ceremony.

VVIV Recessional

Finally, the recessional is led by the newly married couple. The wedding party exits after the married couple leaves the room joyfully. The audience applauds and shouts since it is such a celebrative moment. This is also most appropriate since it all foreshadows the triumph and victory of the Church and the King of Kings.

VVV.. Announcements

An announcement is given to thank the guests for their participation and to direct the guests to take pictures or to proceed immediately to the reception area.