

***BIBLE READINGS  
FOR WEDDINGS***

*Genesis 1.26-28*

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'

*Song of Solomon 2.10-13; 8.6,7*

My beloved speaks and says to me:  
'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;  
for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.  
The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtle dove is heard in our land.  
The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.'  
Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm;  
for love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave.  
Its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame.  
Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can floods drown it.  
If one offered for love all the wealth of one's house,  
it would be utterly scorned.

### *1 Corinthians 13*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels,  
but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal  
And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries  
and all knowledge,

and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,  
but do not have love,

I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions,  
and if I hand over my body so that I may boast,  
but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious  
or boastful or arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way;

it is not irritable or resentful;

it does not rejoice in wrongdoing,

but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things,

believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies,

they will come to an end; as for tongues,

they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part;

but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child,

I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult,

I put an end to childish ways.

For now we see in a mirror, dimly,

but then we will see face to face.

Now I know only in part; then I will know fully,

even as I have been fully known.

And now faith, hope, and love abide,

these three;

and the greatest of these is love.

### *Colossians 3.12-17*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,  
clothe yourselves with compassion,  
kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.  
Bear with one another and,  
if anyone has a complaint against another,  
forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you,  
so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love,  
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.  
And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
to which indeed you were called in the one body.  
And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly  
teach and admonish one another in all wisdom;  
and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms,  
hymns, and spiritual songs to God.  
And whatever you do, in word or deed,  
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### *1 John 4.7-12*

Beloved, let us love one another,  
because love is from God;  
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.  
Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love  
God's love was revealed among us in this way:  
God sent his only Son into the world  
so that we might live through him.  
No one has ever seen God; if we love one another,  
God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

### *Matthew 5.1-10*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain;  
and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.  
Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:  
'Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.  
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

### *Mark 10 13-16*

People were bringing little children to him  
in order that he might touch them; and the disciples  
spoke sternly to them.  
But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to  
them,  
'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them;  
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.  
Truly I tell you,  
whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little  
child  
will never enter it.'  
And he took them up in his arms,  
laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

*John 2.1-11*

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, '

They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her,

'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me?

My hour has not yet come.'

His mother said to the servants, '

Do whatever he tells you.'

Now standing there were six stone water-jars

for the Jewish rites of purification,

each holding twenty or thirty gallons.

Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.'

And they filled them up to the brim.

He said to them, 'Now draw some out,

and take it to the chief steward.'

So they took it.

When the steward tasted the water that had become wine,

and did not know where it came from

(though the servants who had drawn the water knew),

the steward called the bridegroom and said to him,

'Everyone serves the good wine first,

and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk

But you have kept the good wine until now.'

Jesus did this, the first of his signs,

in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory;

and his disciples believed in him.

*John 15.1-8*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

*Mark 10.6-9,*

Jesus said, 'From the beginning of creation,  
"God made them male and female."  
"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother  
and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."  
So they are no longer two, but one flesh.  
Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

*John 15.9-17*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'