What I took from the Royal Wedding

May 4, 2011 By Jeff Carroll

I watched Royal wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton last week just like a lot of people did. I talked to a lot of people and many people were just hating. People were saying things like “I ain’t watching no rich people getting married.” Or “I don’t know why everybody is making so big of a deal about it, who cares?” I felt the same at first but after I thought about it and then I thought if it was two Royal people fighting everybody would have watched with no complaints. Then I thought about all the other things that could get 2 million people to watch like a Tsunami, or something to do with the War and then I got happy. In this day and time when so many people are getting divorced that people are questioning the validity of marriage its good to see a wedding get so much attention. So for all of those who let their hating get the best of them I found something redeeming in the ceremony. Now, I didn’t watch the entire program but I caught the message to the couple after they shared their vows and was officially married. The Bishop offered them some good advice. I felt the message was so good it was worth repeating. I also think the message had elements people who are still single could get something good from. It made me think of a new saying "As it is while dating shall it also be in marriage." Hit me up and let me know what you get from the Bishop’s message. So, here it is enjoy.

The Bishop of London’s Sermon at the Royal Wedding.The wedding was widely broadcast on television, internet and radio. It has been estimated that the coverage will be watched by two billion people worldwide.
“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.” So said St Catherine of Siena whose festival day it is today. Marriage is intended to be a way in which man and woman help each other to become what God meant each one to be, their deepest and truest selves.
Many are full of fear for the future of the prospects of our world but the message of the celebrations in this country and far beyond its shores is the right one - this is a joyful day! It is good that people in every continent are able to share in these celebrations because this is, as every wedding day should be, a day of hope.
In a sense every wedding is a royal wedding with the bride and the groom as king and queen of creation, making a new life together so that life can flow through them into the future.
William and Catherine, you have chosen to be married in the sight of a generous God who so loved the world that he gave himself to us in the person of Jesus Christ.
And in the Spirit of this generous God, husband and wife are to give themselves to each another.
A spiritual life grows as love finds its centre beyond ourselves. Faithful and committed relationships offer a door into the mystery of spiritual life in which we discover this; the more we give of self, the richer we become in soul; the more we go beyond ourselves in love, the more we become our true selves and our spiritual beauty is more fully revealed. In marriage we are seeking to bring one another into fuller life.
It is of course very hard to wean ourselves away from self-centredness. And people can dream of doing such a thing but the hope should be fulfilled it is necessary a solemn decision that, whatever the difficulties, we are committed to the way of generous love.
You have both made your decision today - “I will” - and by making this new relationship, you have

aligned yourselves with what we believe is the way in which life is spiritually evolving, and which will lead to a creative future for the human race.

We stand looking forward to a century which is full of promise and full of peril. Human beings are confronting the question of how to use wisely a power that has been given to us through the discoveries of the last century. We shall not be converted to the promise of the future by more knowledge, but rather by an increase of loving wisdom and reverence, for life, for the earth and for one another.

Marriage should transform, as husband and wife make one another their work of art. It is possible to transform as long as we do not harbour ambitions to reform our partner. There must be no coercion if the Spirit is to flow; each must give the other space and freedom. Chaucer, the London poet, sums it up in a pithy phrase:

"Whan maistrie [mastery] comth, the God of Love anon,
Beteth his wynges, and farewell, he is gon."

As the reality of God has faded from so many lives in the West, there has been a corresponding inflation of expectations that personal relations alone will supply meaning and happiness in life. This is to load our partner with too great a burden. We are all incomplete: we all need the love which is secure, rather than oppressive, we need mutual forgiveness, to thrive.

As we move towards our partner in love, following the example of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit is quickened within us and can increasingly fill our lives with light. This leads to a family life which offers the best conditions in which the next generation can practise and exchange those gifts which can overcome fear and division and incubate the coming world of the Spirit, whose fruits are love and joy and peace.

I pray that all of us present and the many millions watching this ceremony and sharing in your joy today, will do everything in our power to support and uphold you in your new life. And I pray that God will bless you in the way of life that you have chosen, that way which is expressed in the prayer that you have composed together in preparation for this day:

God our Father, we thank you for our families; for the love that we share and for the joy of our marriage. In the busyness of each day keep our eyes fixed on what is real and important in life and help us to be generous with our time and love and energy.

Strengthened by our union help us to serve and comfort those who suffer. We ask this in the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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http://beta.docker.realhealthmag.com/blog/what-i-took-from-the-royal-wed