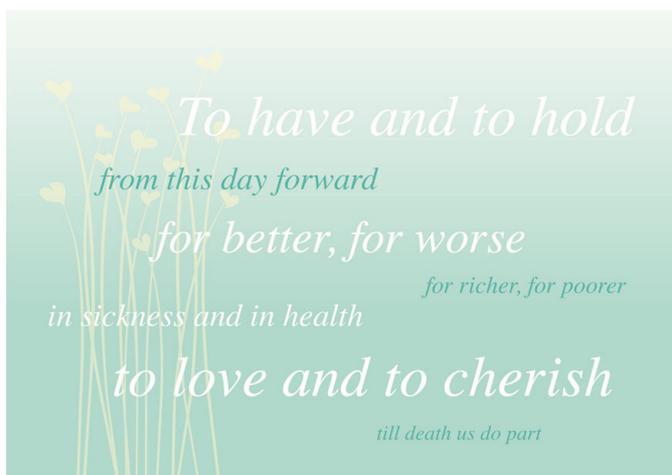


Space to think invitation

Prepared...for what?

“Although some couples are repelled by the idea that a ‘stranger’ has any authority to have a say in their relationship, others feel that some kind of provision to ‘check’ that they are doing the right thing by getting married is a good idea. Several men in our sample were particularly favourable about the prospect. However, the positioning of these sessions is hugely important to how they are received people strongly believe that any support offered is clearly optional; they are also likely to reject the offer if a genuine relationship has not been established”

- From Understanding Marriage,
Weddings and Church Weddings.
HenleyCentreHeadlightVision 2007



The first of the Weddings Project’s invitation cards is to invite couples to think about their marriage and the vows they will make on their wedding day. The card does not refer to ‘marriage preparation’ because the Project team discovered that many couples (and clergy) find the term bit outdated: so we called it ‘space to think’ instead.

Couples like the idea of a ‘light touch’ event, and many more prefer a single session event to a week-by-week course.

Slightly more couples said they would prefer to meet the vicar on their own at this stage in the journey. But almost as many appreciated the idea of meeting with other couples too.

How to use it:

We have left space on the card to enter your own details.

It can be easily used to invite couples who live in your parish but who will marry far away.

Enter your couple’s details into your online weddings diary to be reminded about when to send this card.

This can be used with the supporting factsheet ‘ten simple steps for thinking about marriage in one session’ in this section and available online at www.yourchurchwedding.org/project.