



The Hands of a Bride and Groom



Beloved Bride to be: Please take you fiancee's hands, palms up, in our, and look at them.
These are the hands, young and strong and vibrant with love that will hold yours on your wedding day, as he promises to love you all the days of his life.
These are the hands that, God willing, you will place with expectant joy beneath you heart one day until he too, feels his child within your womb.
These are the hands that look so large and clumsy now, yet will be so gentle when he holds your baby for the first time.
These are the hands that, together with yours, will work long hours, to earn the money for your family.
These are the hands that will be nicked and bruised from fixing things around the house to make you more comfortable.
These are the hands that will caress your body throughout the years to make the passion of love come alive in you.
These are the hands that will countless times wipe tears from your eyes, tears of sorrow and tears of joy.
These are the hands that will comfort you in illness and hold you when fear or grief racks your mind.
These are the hands that will tenderly lift your chin and brush your cheek as they raise your face to look into his eyes, eyes that will be filled with his overwhelming love and desire for you.

Beloved groom to be: Please take your fiancee's hands, palms up, in yours, and look at them.
These are the hands that will hold yours as she gives her pledge to love you, and accepts your ring on your wedding day.
These are the hands that are smooth and young and carefree now, but will become lined and rougher in the years ahead from doing things to make you more comfortable.
These are the hands that, God willing, will hold you in joy and excitement, each time she says you are to have another child, that together you have created new life.
These are the hands that, together with yours, will hold each child in tender love, soothing them through illness, disciplining them, diapering them, baking for them, praying for them, and wringing themselves in worry when trouble comes.
Perhaps these are the hands that will comfort you when you are told you cannot have a child and convince you that you can create new life in other ways.
These are the hands that will tenderly hold your face and wipe tears from your eyes, in wonder and awe that you would cry for her.

Beloved Couple: Hold each others hands.
These are the hands of the sacrament of holy matrimony.
These four hands are your armor and shield against the toils of the world.
These four hands are part of God's plan for renewing His church.
These hands can reach out to the lonely and discouraged, bring hope to the destitute in mind and body, heal the abused and hurting children of the world, and teach your friends the wonders of married love.
These hands are the hope of a troubled humanity.
God Bless These Hands!



Marriage Takes Three

By Perry Tanksley

*I once thought marriage took
Just two to make ago
But now I am convinced
It takes the Lord also
And not one marriage fails
Where Christ is asked to enter
As lovers come together
With Jesus at the center
But marriage seldom thrives
And homes are incomplete
Till He is welcomed there
To help avert defeat
In homes where God is first
It is obvious to see
Those unions really work
For marriage still takes three.*