

# LAUGH AND LEARN

## MORE JUNE WEDDINGS!

### THE LEARN

Weddings are serious, but they can also be a lot of fun. We'll sample both serious and fun in this L&L.

In the picture above, a friend of the groom painted "Help Me" on the shoes of the groom, who has no knowledge of this. When the couple knelt to pray for God to bless their marriage, you can imagine that many who came to the wedding began to giggle. This couple will laugh about this picture for the next 50 years. Here is a close up of the same joke on a groom at a different wedding.



### LEARNING THE WEDDING PROMISE

All American weddings include the vows the bride and groom speak to each other. A vow is a promise. A promise may be given in one of two ways, conditionally or unconditionally.

For example, parents might tell their children, "If it doesn't rain tomorrow, we will go to the pond for a picnic." Is that promise conditional or unconditional? It is conditional. The weather is the condition that decides whether the promise must be kept. A conditional promise may be broken with no dishonor and with no one feeling angry or cheated, if the conditions are not favorable.



Here is an unconditional promise a parent might make. "Saturday morning we will go to town and buy new shoes for you." Weather is not a condition. The parent's mood is not a condition.

Which promise is the stronger kind? Which promise must be kept no matter what happens?

Here are the traditional American wedding vows. Read these and decide if they are conditional or unconditional. The man and woman each make the same vows.

"I, Michael, take you Susan, to be my wedded wife....to have and to hold, from this day forward....for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer....in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish....as long as we both shall live...according to God's holy plan ...I pledge you my faith."

This is an unconditional promise. But it is more than that. It is a promise that eliminates all possible conditions that one might think of to end a marriage.

The next time you hear a promise, or make one, think about whether it is conditional or unconditional.

## THE WEDDING OF THE YEAR



Saturday, 26 June, Petr Dolezel married Linda Sáříčková and together they became **Mr. and Mrs. Petr Lupton.**

Mr. Dan Lupton met Petr at a 2004 English Camp in Liberec. They became friends...close friends...a dad and son relationship. Petr and Linda met at a 2007 English Camp. They became friends...close friends...in love and engaged friends.

Three months ago they asked Mr. Dan and Nancy for permission to have Lupton as their wedded surname. We gave our consent and blessing. Therefore, it is my happy privilege to congratulate and introduce to you our Czech son and daughter-in-law, **Mr. and Mrs. Petr Lupton.**

The wedding was in the Nachod Církev bratrská. Much of the ceremony felt very American, although many American traditions came originally from Europe. The entrance of the bridal party with music, with maids and groomsmen, best man and maid of honor, are similar to what one would experience in the USA.

A funny part was the Czech reception tradition of the couple feeding soup to each other with a spoon that has holes in it. Nancy and I have attended many Czech weddings, and they have all been beautiful. The foods at the party to follow are also beautiful to see as well as eat.

One tradition that is unique to the USA is that at the wedding party, whenever the guests tap their drinking glasses with a spoon or knife, the bride and groom must kiss.

## THE LINKS

Beautiful Wedding Ceremony at Second Baptist Church in Houston, 7 May 2009  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZnzqZpm9jJk>

Tapping Glasses for a kiss  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4-fBxsaPGQ>

Small Church Wedding Ceremony Highlights  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhMvAtQW0qc>

## THE LAUGHS





"Didn't you get my e-mail?"



