

Meditation - Love is a Decision

Planning a wedding includes many decisions from choosing a date on the calendar to names for the cleaning crew. These decisions are weaved into conversations as two individuals transition from engagement to marriage.

Over this year, the decisions couples have faced in planning a wedding has doubled, if not tripled. We are witnesses of a bold and brave couple today who decided that love mattered more than anything else.

We often think of love as an emotion. Yet, for two people to truly love each other, they must move past emotions and make the choice to love. True love is a commitment. Once the choice is made, this thoughtful decision carries the couple through all seasons of life; in sickness and in health, when taking exams and serving in mission, and while experiencing joy or sorrow.

Perhaps the emotion of love drew this couple together years ago, but the will to love each other has led Tyler and Sarah Beth to their wedding day and will lead them through their marriage.

In the reading from Romans, the Apostle Paul reveals a new way of life, a road to travel for bold and brave individuals who decide that love is both the destination and the journey.

We are excited for these two travelers named Tyler and SarahBeth as they embark on their adventure of marriage. They have already chosen their mode of transportation. The diesel engine was far too big and the motorcycle was not big enough. A camper was chosen, which gives ample space for luggage and furry companions.

With any road trip, there will be delays. Yet, the couple has discovered a simple solution. Over the years, whenever there were immovable decisions, they chose to play a friendly round of putt putt or bowl a few games at the bowling alley. After the last putt or the last frame, the winner declared the course ahead and loved moved onward.

There will be many places to call home in the upcoming adventure. A place where love grows and deepens. A place where love contributes to the needs of others and extends hospitality to strangers. A place, if possible, where peace and justice abound.

We are witnesses beginning of this grand love adventure beginning today that is beyond an emotion that unites Tyler and Sarah Beth together in marriage. They have chosen to do the next right thing in love by choosing to travel together as husband and wife.

Whenever we choose to love another person, this decision holds a piece of sacrifice within it. This choice will cost a person giving of their time, skill, money, or their life. The great paradox of love is the more we consume, the more we desire to give away.

As family and friends celebrate this day with you both, may our loving creator and tour guide bless your marriage. May love lead the way forward this day and always.

Amen