

## Speech 1

As I look at this beautiful woman before me in the lovely wedding gown, I can't help but reflect on the girl she was and the woman she has become. She became "Daddy's Girl" on the day she was born and has always been a princess to me. All through her life, she has brought joy to her mother and me, and while not every day has been perfect, the love I feel for her has been.

And today, she has joined hands with a wonderful young man, and in addition to the sparkle I have always seen in her eyes, today I see a love and joy there beyond anything I have seen thus far. She and [Groom] today have completed each other as they become a new family unit.

Please join me today in wishing [Bride] and [Groom] every happiness possible and a long and joyful life together as husband and wife.

## Speech 2

I have been waiting for this moment for over twenty years now. Not that I have always looked forward to it, because for most of those years I worked hard to protect my daughter from making this decision too young in her life. But I can truthfully say that I knew that this day would come and have been thinking about what I would say in terms of counsel and wishes for my little girl and her new husband. [Bride] has always had an attitude of compassion to those around her. All through her school years she was loved by all who knew her. She has always been concerned about other people and was especially aware of those less fortunate and perhaps not as popular. She always sought for the best in others and helped them to feel valued. Now that sense of compassion reaches its apex in her life thus far as it becomes focused on the one man with whom she has chosen to spend the rest of her life. Putting the same compassion, love and energy into her husband that she has put into her friends will result in a truly remarkable partnership and friendship now an always.

With time, that partnership will expand as [bride] and [groom] welcome children into their family. [Bride] will be an extraordinary mother and bring that trait of compassion and selflessness into the life of a child. Who would not want a mother as beautiful, talented and loving?

This new couple before you are two amazing individuals and together they become an even more amazing couple. Love constantly, accuse slowly, forgive quickly and share everything. Be each other's best friends, leaving behind any other relationship that might cause you to put another ahead of

your spouse. Open your hearts to each other and put your marriage first. May God bless your union and bring you the greatest of joy today and always.

### **Speech 3**

Marriages, like births, mark a new beginning. The day I drove home from the hospital after [Bride] was born was a new beginning for me. To be the father of a daughter seemed a bit overwhelming but anticipation for her life and for our relationship helped me overcome my fears and work hard to be a father worthy of such a daughter.

Today, we stand at another new beginning as [Bride] and [Groom] start a brand new family. Like me, they are probably filled with a feeling of being a little overwhelmed at it all, but those feelings will melt away in large part as they anticipate their new life together and as they build a relationship that will stand the test of time.

Be true to each other always; share your joys and your burdens; love much and laugh much; be each other's best friend. Always speak well of one another, even in private. And when things don't go well, forgive as often as it is required. Married life is an adventure and you embark today on that adventure together. Even though you are individuals, your covenant today makes the couple more important than either of you separately.

One day, if you are fortunate as I have been, you will stand in awe of a new life entering your family. That will be another beginning, filled with apprehension and anticipation. Bring to that relationship the same level of love and commitment you do to your marriage, and you will find joy beyond compare.

So today, your friends and family surround you as you begin something new and marvelous. Remember your promises, keep them with all your heart, and you will have that sense of joy and wonder that exceeds all you have heretofore known. With all my heart, I offer you my congratulations and warmest wishes as you begin the latest adventure life has to offer.