

# Lesson objective

- The aim of this lesson is to look at why marriage and the marriage service is important to Christians whilst also considering why some people don't want to get married.

# Lesson outcomes

- ALL will be able to describe what cohabitation is and why some couples prefer this to marriage
- MOST will be able to explain at least five reasons why Christians think marriage is important
- SOME will be able to rank the different parts of the Christian marriage service and decide which part is most important



# Starter



- What is love? Watch the following clip and then write your own sentence which answers the question.
- <http://www.truetube.co.uk/relationships/love--sex/i-think-i-know-what-love-is>



# Cohabitation – what is it?

A – Two people having equally bad habits

B - Married people living together without having children

C - Being in a relationship and living together without being married

The correct answer is .... C

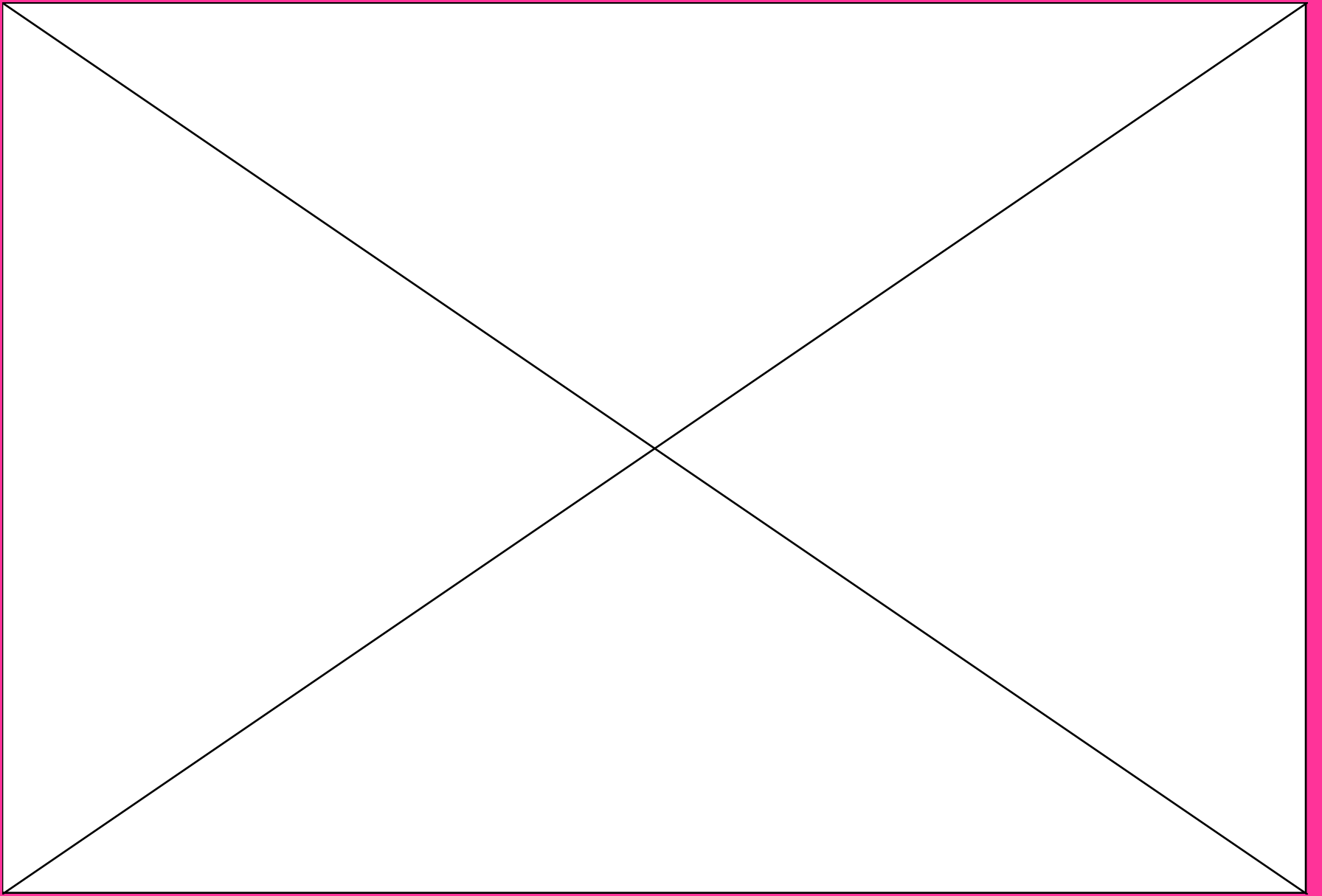
# Why don't we live together?

- We know from last week that cohabitation is on the increase and that more couples are choosing to live together without getting married.

**In rough, can you write down at least two reasons why this might be?**



- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1pnkynWccw&feature=related>
- Watch the following clip from Youtube.
- Does the clip give you any more ideas to add to your list?





# Review



- Complete the sheet by deciding whether each argument is FOR couples living together or AGAINST couples living together.
- Then use the coloured pencil to shade in the boxes of any arguments that are religious.
- Add a key so that you know why you have shaded the boxes you have 😊



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# Over 18.....

**18+**

18

- Although marriage is on the decline, many couples still choose to get married.
- We have come up with 18 different reasons why people choose to get married.
- In rough, how many reasons can you get? There will be a prize for anyone who gets over 18 sensible ideas 😊

**Love**

**Faithfulness**

**To start a family**

**Security**

**Guilt**

**Shared beliefs about  
God**

**Honesty**

**Trust**

**Companionship**

**Pregnancy**

**Shared interests**

**Time together**

**Loyalty**

**Respect**

**Sex**

**Compatibility**

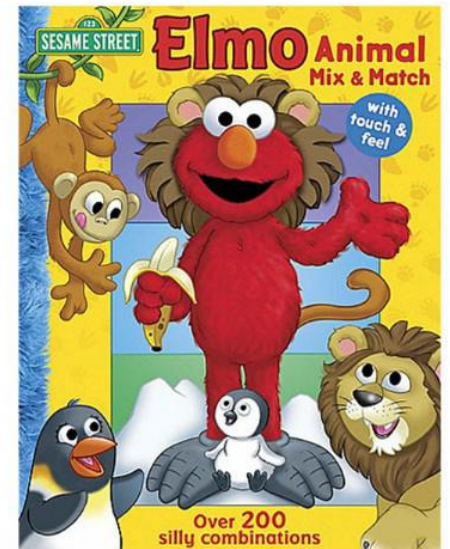
**Age**

**Commitment**

**How did you get on.....?**

# Marriage for Christians

- As well as all the reasons on the previous slide, there are seven important reasons why Christians want to get married.
- Complete the other side of the sheet by matching up the reasons.
- Note that the reasons spell out an important word!



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# Here comes the bride....

- What happens at a Christian wedding?
- In rough, write down any ideas that you have.
- Now watch this clip, from the film "Four Weddings and a Funeral"
- Does it give you any more ideas?



# Features of a Wedding Service...

Did you get any of the following?

Vows (promises)

Exchange rings

Hymns

Sign register

Bible readings

Proclamation (couple pronounced husband and wife)

Prayers

Opening statement

Entry (bride with father)

Declaration (witnesses' are asked if there is any reason the couple can't be married)

Worship



Put these events of a Christian Wedding Service into the correct order...

*signing of register*

*Hymns*

*Entry*

*Opening Statement*

*Exchanging of rings*

*Declaration*

*Vows*

*Prayers*

Write these parts out in the correct order BUT leave SIX lines between each one

# Why is each bit important?

- You are going to be given the answer to this question for one part of the service. Decide which part it is and write it down.
- Then swap your answer for someone else's.
- How many answers can you work out and write down in the time that you have?

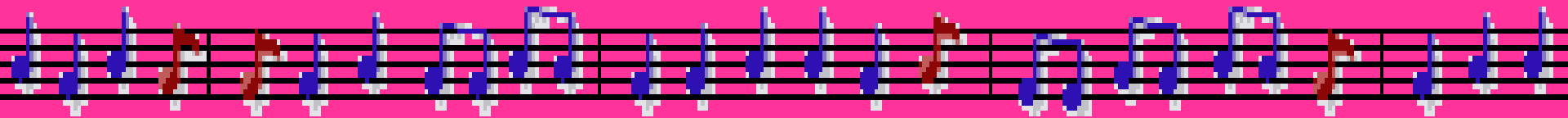
# The Entry

The Bride, her Father and her bridesmaids process to the front of the church.



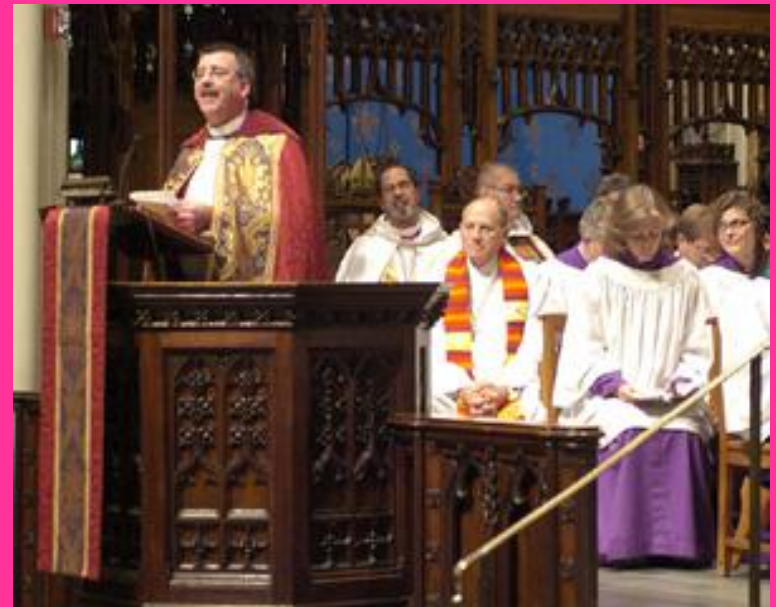
# Hymns

- The purpose of the hymn is to focus everyone's minds on God.
- It shows that the marriage is done before God.



# The Opening Statement

- Given by the person leading the service
- Summarises what marriage is for.
- Helps people to understand the commitment they are making.



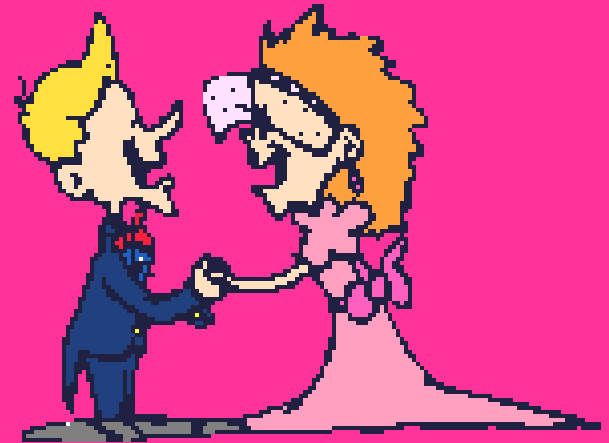
# The Declaration

- The witnesses and the couple are asked if there is any reason the couple cannot get married.
- This makes sure that the vows will be kept and that the couple are entering into marriage with the right intentions.



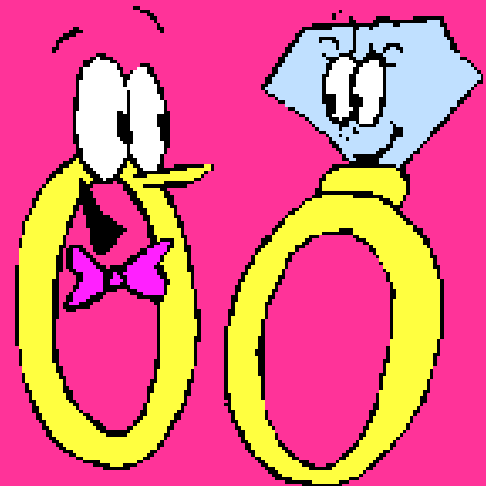
# The VOWS

- The vows are promises made between the couple in front of witnesses
- At a religious wedding they are also made to God and the couple believe that God will help them keep those promises.
- The couple promise to love, comfort, honour and protect each other until death so they are not promises to be taken lightly!



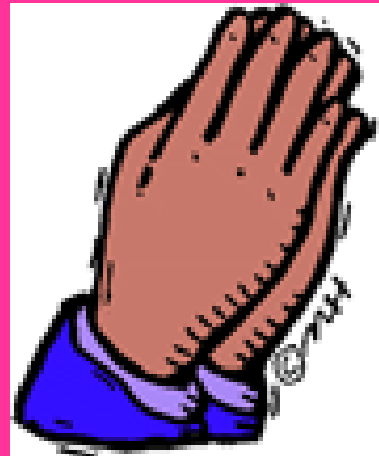
# Exchange of Rings...

- A ring is a symbol of the couples love, trust, and devotion.
- It is a reminder of the promises they have made to each other.



# Prayers

- Prayers for the couple are said and often a talk or a sermon about marriage is given by the priest.
- This is a way of asking for God's blessing on them.



# Signing of the register...

- The register is signed by the couple and witnesses.
- This is to record that the marriage is a legally binding contract.





I \_\_\_\_\_ take you

\_\_\_\_\_

To be my wedded

\_\_\_\_\_

To have and to hold

From this day forward

For better, for \_\_\_\_\_

For \_\_\_\_\_, for \_\_\_\_\_

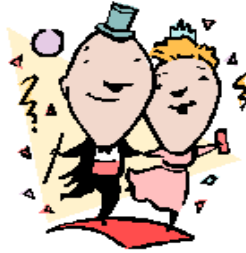
In sickness and in \_\_\_\_\_

To \_\_\_\_\_ and to cherish

Till death us do part

According to God's holy law

And this is my solemn \_\_\_\_\_



# The Vows

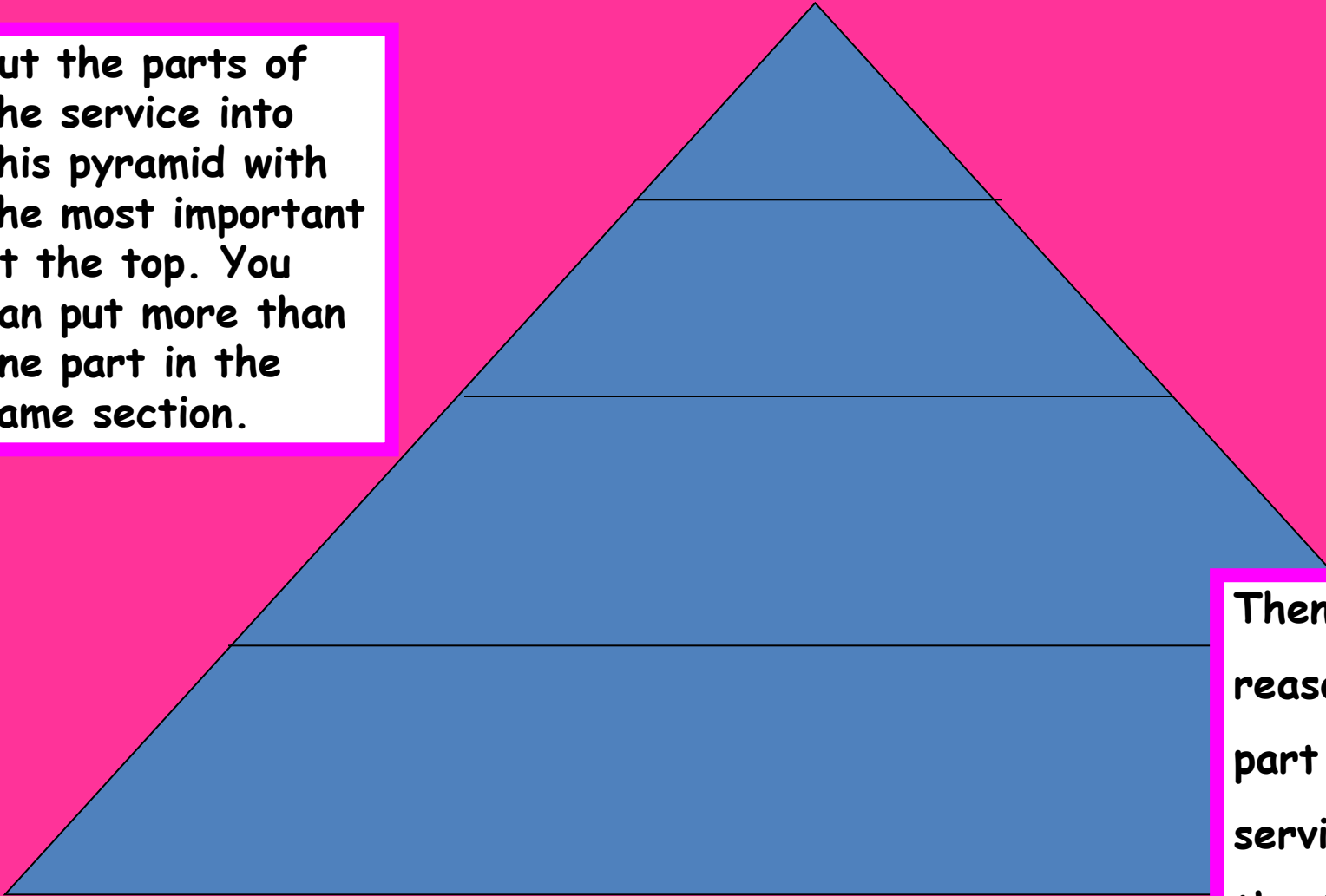
What PROMISES are made by a couple at the wedding?

Complete the following worksheet by filling in the blanks.

If you could change the vows, what would you change? If you wouldn't change anything, why would you leave them as they are?

# *Importance of the service...*

Put the parts of the service into this pyramid with the most important at the top. You can put more than one part in the same section.



Then give a reason for the part of the service you put at the top.

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# Plenary

- Unjumble each word and explain what it means....
- Habicotionta
- COHABITATION
- Clarationed
- DECLARATION
- Centitommm
- COMMITMENT
- Vwos
- VOWS