

I sometimes hold onto the printed vows that the couple have written so that I can hand them to them during the ceremony. Sometimes they get put back into my binder and are forgotten until I'm at home cleaning out the binder, ready for the next ceremony. It is at one such time that I found myself with a copy of a groom's metaphor/analogy of how being on top of Mt Washington was like the journey they couple took to reach this point in their lives together. I recall it being a really great metaphor and have transcribed some of it here. I didn't want to copy the entire thing without his permission (it's now been several years since the ceremony and I'd be hard pressed to even determine which groom it was) but I wanted the gist of the idea to get across to you.

As we stand here today on top of Mt Washington, I feel like I'm on the top of the world with you standing next to me. At this time I have to reflect upon how we have gotten here.

As we started up the auto road early this morning in two separate cars, it is a lot like our lives. Our parents have paved the beginning of the road of life for us, providing us with love and support throughout our young lives, where the road for us was smooth and wide.

As we began to grow older, we started to find some curves in the road of life, some sharper than others. Then we came to points in our lives where the road turned to dirt and became narrow, with steep cliffs on one side and a rock wall on the other.

Sometimes we found ourselves pulled over on the side of the road to enjoy the view of what we had accomplished so far (college, buying homes, jobs, children), but determined to drive onward and upward.

Then we met each other at one of the pull offs of life and the road started to become paved and smooth due to the team work and love that we provide to each other. With steep cliffs and large boulders still all around us, I know the road ahead of us will still have many curves, tight areas and even bumps on it, but together we will continue to move forward on this journey called marriage.