A PREMARITAL PASTORAL CONVERSATION –
A WEDDING OF STORIES :
A NARRATIVE APPROACH

BY

CORNÉ WILHELMUS DU PLOOY

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There is probably no history; only biography.

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

... the narrative metaphor proposes that persons live their lives by stories - that these stories are shaping of life, and that they have real, not imagined effects - and that these stories provide the structure of life.

*Michael White*

Our prevailing narratives provide the vocabulary that sets our realities. Our destinies are opened and closed in terms of the stories that we construct to understand our experiences.

*Harry Goolishian*

Every time we ask a question, we’re generating a possible version of a life.

*David Epston*

There are some questions that linger in the minds of clients for weeks, months, and occasionally years, and continue to have an effect.

*Karl Tomm*

But it is illusory to believe that a man and a woman are two separate people who come together to form a more perfect union. They are simply scapegoats sent out by their families to reproduce their kind.

*Carl A. Whitaker*

Marriage is the only war where you sleep with the enemy.

*C.M. Ward*

Unhappiness in marriage is not planned; for some, it comes naturally.

*Campion*

When I got married I was looking for an ideal, but I married an ordeal, and now I want a new deal.
“As iron sharpens iron, so one man [friend] sharpens another” (Proverbs 27:17).

Whatever sharpness there is in the pages that follow is a result of discussions, challenges, suggestions and support of friends and colleagues. I would therefore like to acknowledge, with thanks, the role people have played in the production of this narrative:

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