

Dedicating your child to the Lord is a commitment that you, as a parent, do before God and the church. In turn, your church—Church On The Word, commits to God and your family, to support you in prayer and counseling; to assist you with Biblical teachings concerning parenthood; and to provide opportunities and facilities through which you and your child can enter into the fullness of the Christian faith.

The Event

Date. The next Baby Dedication service will be announced in the church bulletin. If you filled out the Baby Dedication form, you will be contacted by phone concerning the scheduled date.

Other Instructions. The day of the Baby Dedication service, you will be instructed as to when to pick up your child from the nursery and bring him/her into the service. Then you and your child will stand before the congregation and dedicate your child to the Lord in prayer. After that, the pastor or minister will pray a blessing over your child. Flash photography and video cameras will be allowed during the dedication portion of the service.

Scripture Reference

Dedication of Children

Mark 10:13-16 • 1 Samuel 1 • Matthew 19:13-15 • Luke 2:22-24 • Ephesians 6:1-4

Duties of the Parents

Deuteronomy 6:7 • Proverbs 22:6 • 2 Corinthians 2:14 • Ephesians 6:4 • 1 Timothy 3:4 • Titus 2:4

CHURCH ON THE WORD

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Baby Dedication

at Church On The Word

- *An opportunity to thank God for the precious gift of your child.*
- *An opportunity to publicly declare your intentions to raise your child in a Christian home—although you may have already done that in your hearts, to publicly announce it makes you accountable to hundreds of people.*
- *An opportunity for a family dedication—where as parents, you commit yourselves to abide by Biblical principles and to raise your children according to God's standards. Not only do you dedicate your child to God, you also dedicate yourselves, as parents, to Christ and the church.*



After filling it out this form, please tear it off, and hand it to the Information Booth personnel, or, you may fold it and insert it in the Form Boxes located at the Information Booth.

For any questions or additional information, please contact Church On The Word office. Thank you.



Baby Dedication



The joy of Jesus' birth was shared with the people of God in the House of God. Like most Jewish parents in that day, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the temple to be presented to God. Long before this time, Godly parents presented their children to God. And to this day, parents bring their children to God, asking for His blessing.

When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him [Jesus] to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. **Luke 2:22 (NIV)**



As parents presenting your child to the Lord, you are signifying your own personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. You show a desire to see God's will carried out in the life of your child. And you are acknowledging your place as stewards of what really belongs to God—your child.

Dedication means that by word and example, you promise to teach your child to live a holy life and to value the good gifts God has given us. You promise to give your child every opportunity and to encouragement to develop into the well-rounded Christian individual God intends him or her to be.

Dedication before God and the church means that you realize that the church should have a large part in the spiritual growth of your family. It means a commitment to model a Christian lifestyle by worshiping with a church family regularly.

Guidelines for Parents

✓ Since dedication of children is a Christian act of giving children to God for His glory. The first question to ask is, *Are we Christians?* At times, people bring their babies for dedication because it is "the thing to do." God is honored by hearts that genuinely desire to please Him without regard for what others think. Christian Dedication of babies is for Christian families.

✓ The next question is *Are we serious about this dedication?* Parents should ask themselves if they really want to see their child serve God. Dedicating your child to God is an act of faith in God, believing that He has a purpose of abundant life for your child.

✓ The final question to ask is, *Are we willing to oversee our child's Christian development?* By dedicating your child to God, you commit yourself to maintain a Christian home, where Christ is honored and the Word of God is believed and obeyed. A child's first impression of God comes from you, so you must strive to live Christ-like lives at all times. Children sense our commitment to the Lord and are far more perceptive than we sometimes realize.

Love God, your God, with your whole heart: love Him with all that's in you, love Him with all you've got! Write these commandments that I've given you today on your hearts. Get them inside of you and then get them inside your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning to when you fall into bed at night. **Deuteronomy 6:5-7 (MSG)**



Baby Dedication Form

Dear parent(s), your decision to dedicate your child to the Lord is admirable. Please consider the importance of this step and realize that God will help and equip you in bringing up your child.

Parent(s) Information (Please print below)

Father's Name

Mother's Name

Address

City

State

Phone Number

Zip Code

Child's Information

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Generation (Jr., Sr., II, etc.)

Date of Birth

Gender: Male

Female

By signing below, I testify that I am Born-again and I will —to the best of my ability and God's help, lead a Godly life before my child/children.

Father's Signature

Date

Mother's Signature

Date