



INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION

It is a great honor for us to be part of your child's dedication. We love kids. And our love for them comes from God's love for kids. He delights in children and takes great pleasure in them! They are one of the greatest gifts God gives to us. [Psalm 127:3](#) proclaims "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord. The "fruit" of the womb is a reward." Because children are a gift from God, it is natural that you present and dedicate your child to God. In the Gospels we read that little children were brought to Jesus so that he might place his hands on them. Allen Memorial Baptist Church does not practice child baptism. We believe baptism is for believers who have made a decision on their own to follow Christ. Rather, we practice parent/child dedication. Samuel in the bible was dedicated to the Lord by his parents, as was Jesus. In the same way, you as a parent will bring your son or daughter, presenting first yourselves and then your child before the Lord our God.

[Deuteronomy 6:4-7](#) tells us "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up."

Parent Qualifications for having a child dedicated.

- The parent(s) participating in the dedication must be followers of Jesus Christ, Acts 4:12 and committed to raising their child according to God's principals in His Word.
- Because the primary focus of child dedication is on the parents teaching their children by word and by example to follow Jesus, we ask that you not participate in dedicating your child to the Lord if you are participating in anything that would hinder the cause of Christ.

The pastors are happy to talk with you about any of the qualifications upon request.

Instructions:

- The baby dedication will be held at the beginning of the worship service and will only take a few minutes.
- You should sit near the front so you are ready when the pastor calls you to stand with him. You will be asked to face the congregation up front. You may bring other children with you at that time, if you wish.
- The pastor may ask to hold your baby if the baby doesn't object. If there are several children to be dedicated to the Lord at the same time, then the Pastor may not be able to hold all the children.
- The pastor will ask you about your commitment to the Lord and if you promise to follow Him. He will then ask if you promise to raise your child or children in the knowledge of the Lord, and parent them according to biblical principals.
- The pastor will then place his hand on the child to pray if he isn't already holding her/him.
- At the conclusion of the dedication you may take your child to the check in station and their appropriate Sunday school class.

May God bless you richly as you raise your child in the ways of the Lord!



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