

Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along

QUESTIONS OF PARENTS? (CONTINUED)

- 5. Do you promise to use every means provided by God, including faithful participation in the life of the Church, to bring your child up in the loving discipline of the Lord?
- 6. Do you this day ask the Lord's blessings upon your child's life...to guide, guard and direct them?

WHAT QUESTIONS WILL BE ASKED OF THE CONGREGATION?

Here is a sampling of questions we ask the congregation...

- 1. Will you, the members of this congregation, be willing to join with these parents acting as a Christian support network for them? And are you willing to assume responsibility with these parents for the spiritual nurture of this child as the Lord allows you the opportunity?
- 2. Do you commit yourself to set a godly example before this child and to provide as far as you are able, all that is necessary to the end that this child may one day confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?



After these questions have been answered, the pastor will pray for your child and then everyone may be seated again.

The church will offer you a Certificate of Dedication to commemorate this special day!

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO HAVE MY CHILD DEDICATED?

It's very simple...

- 1. Call the church office at 781-2466.
- 2. Inform the office that you wish to have your child dedicated.
- 3. The office will take some preliminary information (name, birth date, etc.) regarding your child and will inform you when the next child dedication service will be held.
- 4. You may choose which morning service you would prefer to have your child dedicated on that date.
- 5. A Children's Ministry staff member will phone you and make sure you understand what child dedication is all about, answer any questions you may have, and schedule the service in which you would like your child dedicated.

We are excited to partner with you in passing your faith in Jesus Christ on to the next generation! May God bless you and your child.

Bethany Church
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the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Deuteronomy 11:19

Child Dedications



"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."

Proverbs 22:6

Bethany Church

"Teach them to your children, talk about them when you sit at

"Teach them to your children, talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along

the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Deuteronomy 11:19

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS DEDICATED

One of the most precious responsibilities of Christian parenting is that of committing yourselves to raising your children in the "nurture and admonition" of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). At Bethany, our desire is to partner with you as parents in this God-given privilege.

One of the earliest ways that we, at Bethany, begin to encourage you as parents in this privilege is by "Child Dedication." What does this mean? What does child dedication entail? What questions will be asked of parents? This brochure is provided to answer these questions.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO "DEDICATE" YOUR CHILD TO CHRIST?

The precedent for the dedication of children can be found in a number of passages in the Scriptures.

- Luke 2:27 - When Christ was born his parents (Joseph & Mary) took Him to the temple to be presented unto the Lord.
- II Timothy 3:15 - Here the grandmother and mother of Timothy are said to have raised Timothy under the teaching of the Holy Scriptures since childhood.
- I Samuel 1:27-28 - Elkanah & Hannah realized that the Lord had given them their child as a gift. As a result, they took him to the temple where they dedicated his life and service to the Lord.



This time of dedication is one of "parental dedication." You, as parents, are really the ones pledging yourselves to "teach the Words of the Lord diligently to your children, to talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up" (Deuteronomy 6:7). The time is meaningless unless you as parents dedicate yourselves to this privilege and responsibility.

As you bring your child to Bethany to be dedicated to the Lord, we typically do this at one of our Worship Services. We want the family of Christ to be involved in your commitment. It both strengthens your commitment as parents and calls upon the family at Bethany to support you in your commitment. The pastor will ask you, the parents, some questions of dedication pertaining to your desire to raise your child in a Christian home and to do what you can to bring your child to a place of personal faith in Christ. Then he prays for you and your commitment.

WHAT DOES CHILD DEDICATION ENTAIL?

The pastor will invite you and your family at a designated time during the worship service to the front of the sanctuary for the dedication so everyone in the congregation can see clearly. Grandparents and close family may accompany you if you like.

The pastor introduces you and your child to the congregation, briefly explains child dedication to the congregation, and then asks you a few questions of commitment and dedication to which will you will respond.

After that, the pastor turns to the congregation and asks them a couple of questions of commitment and dedication to which they will respond.

This is such an exciting time of verbal commitment by your friends at Bethany partnering with you in all they do at the Church to raise your child to follow Christ as their Savior.

Following these questions and commitments, the pastor will pray for you, the congregation, and your child asking the Lord to bless you as you endeavor to fulfill this commitment to raise your child "in the admonition of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4).



WHAT QUESTIONS WILL BE ASKED OF PARENTS?

Here is a sampling of questions we ask you...

1. Do you acknowledge the truth of Scripture that your child is born with original sin and in need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you acknowledge the truth of Scripture that your child is a gift of God and do you give thanks today for God's blessing to you?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to the Lord and do you promise, by relying on God's power and grace, to live an exemplary Christian life before your child?
4. Do you commit yourself to pray with and for your child and, to the best of your abilities teach, your child the Holy Scriptures?

"Teach them to your children, talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along

the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Deuteronomy 11:19