

ADDITIONAL READING RECOMMENDATIONS

My Faith Box by Lydia Randall from myfaithbox.org

Focus on the Family

Complete Guide to Baby and Child Care by Paul C. Weisser

The Ministry of Motherhood by Sally Clarkson

The Power of a Praying Parent by Stormie Omartian

Welcome Little One by D6 Family



FAMILY DEDICATION

RECOMMENDED FOR AGES BIRTH-2

WHAT IS FAMILY DEDICATION?

Family Dedication is the next foundational step in a Christ-centered parenting journey. It is a foundational event to equip parents with biblical principles and practical tools for raising their children in a home centered on Jesus. The emphasis is on God's command to pass on faith to the next generation, what that looks like in everyday life, and how to nurture faith through intentional family practices. It helps you to move beyond the what and focuses more on the why.

After dedication, parents can participate in a special service where they make a public pledge. This pledge signifies their commitment to raise their child to know, love, and follow Jesus Christ. The dedication reminds families that God designed the home to be the primary place for faith development and that the primary developers are parents. The church desires to partner with parents and guardians on this journey by offering support and resources at every stage of their child's spiritual growth through the Faith Path ministry. Family Dedication is the first step of this lifelong process.

WHY IS FAMILY DEDICATION IMPORTANT?

Family Dedication is more than a moment; it is the foundation for a lifetime of intentional parenting. It acknowledges that children are a gift from God and recognizes the high calling of parents to nurture their children's faith. This dedication declares that parents are committed to creating a home where Christ is honored, His Word is central, and His love is lived out daily.

It is important because children learn most about God not from sermons or classes, but by watching the example of their parents. The dedication



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moment serves as a starting point for parents to commit to living out their faith authentically, ensuring that their child sees the gospel in action, both in words and deeds. Parents do not have to be perfect, just intentional, and they will grow as their child grows. This milestone also establishes accountability as the church community joins together to provide encouragement, support, and resources along the way.

HOW CAN PARENTS MODEL CHRIST CENTERED LIVING? ..

BEFORE THE DEDICATION

- **Pray Daily for Your Child:** Begin a habit of regularly praying for a child’s faith journey, asking God to guide and protect their heart and mind.
- **Build Spiritual Habits:** Start reading Bible stories, singing worship songs, and praying together as a family, even while a child is an infant or toddler. Families will be guided to focus on these habits over the coming years.
- **Live Authentically:** Demonstrate what it means to follow Jesus daily. Children notice when parents live out their faith through kindness, forgiveness, and joy, and they quickly recognize inconsistency.
- **Prioritize Worship:** Make gathering with the church a regular part of the family rhythm to show that God is the center of life and that relationships within the church family are valued.

AFTER THE DEDICATION

- **Create a Christ-Centered Culture:** Fill the home with reminders of God’s presence, such as Scripture on the walls, worship music, and family prayer times.
- **Practice Faith in Everyday Moments:** Use teachable moments in daily routines like mealtime, bedtime, or family outings to talk about God’s goodness and love.
- **Model Repentance and Grace:** Let children see parents ask for forgiveness and extend grace when mistakes are made, teaching humility and the power of reconciliation.
- **Engage in Faith Path Milestones:** Follow the Faith Path resources provided to intentionally lead children through each stage of their spiritual development.
- **Stay Connected With the Church Community:** Attend events, participate in small groups, and seek wisdom from other godly families who can encourage and mentor.

THE PARENT’S COMMITMENT

Deuteronomy 6:4–9 instructs God’s people to love the Lord with all their heart and with all their soul and with all their might, and to teach their children to do the same. The role of a parent is to be intentional and purposeful in teaching and sharing the love of God with their child while also living it out in front of them. This is not something that happens occasionally, but a daily commitment to being a disciple maker in the home.

FAMILY DEDICATION STEPS

- Sign up for Family Dedication
- Attend a Family Dedication Class
- Participate in an upcoming Family Dedication Pledge

FAMILY DEDICATION CELEBRATION IDEAS

Ideas for making dedication a special time include having a dinner or celebration with family and friends before or after, inviting mentors or partners who will be intentionally counted on for support, asking family members and close friends to write blessings or prayers for the child to place in a faith box while also writing one personally, recording a video message for the child to view in the future that shares words of affirmation and prayers for their spiritual journey, and placing a dedication picture of the family in the home as a reminder of the commitment to raise the family in a godly home.

. FAITH PATH PLAN

Child’s Name: _____

How will you be intentional about your child’s spiritual growth in the coming year?

- ☐ Pray daily with and for my child.
- ☐ Spend consistent time in God’s Word.
- ☐ Attend Church Regularly
- ☐ Other: _____

This step is just as much for you as it is for your child. When you commit to being a disciple-making parent, it’s important for you to grow spiritually, not only for your own benefit but as an example to your child. The next step on the Faith Path is Blessing.