

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on 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. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

The Church Office is open:
Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
We are closed on Friday.

For office use only

Copies to: DT SM JG
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Application for Dedication of Children

*“Unless the Lord builds the house,
its builders labor in vain . . .
Sons are a heritage from the Lord,
children a reward from Him.”*
Psalm 127:1a, 3

The Dedication of Our Children to the Lord is . . .

...A Biblical Practice

A precedent for the ceremony of baby dedication is found throughout the Scriptures. Hannah and Elkanah presented their son, Samuel, to the Lord, *"I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of Him. So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord. And he (Elkanah) worshiped the Lord there."* (I Samuel 1:27-28)

Paul reminded Timothy of his spiritual heritage: *"I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded now lives in you also...and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."* (II Timothy 1:5, 3:15)

Mary and Joseph presented Jesus back to God in an act of worship and dedication, *"When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord..."* *"And the Child grew and became strong; He was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him."* (Luke 2:22, 40)

As a grown man, our Lord loved the little children: *"People were bringing little children to Jesus to have Him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, He was indignant. He said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' And He took the children in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them."*

(Mark 10:13-16)

In Presenting Your Child to the Lord, you are . . .

- ➔ Publicly affirming your personal faith and trust in Christ.
- ➔ Committing yourself to pray daily for the physical, mental, social and spiritual welfare of your child.
- ➔ Setting an example of honoring the Lord's Day by bringing your family to Worship Celebrations and Sunday school.
- ➔ Modeling before your children your love for God and His Word in your home, *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on 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 6:5-7)
- ➔ Looking for that "teachable moment" when you may present Christ to your child and have the joy of leading him/her into a personal relationship to Jesus Christ.

Please complete the application in the next section and return it to the church office. If requesting dedication of more than one child, please complete an application for each child.



Application for Dedication of Children

We have read the Application for Dedication of Children pamphlet and desire to present our child to God. We agree to be diligent in fulfilling our high calling as parents.

Father's Name (Please Print)

Father's Signature

Mother's Name (Please Print)

Mother's Signature

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

For the Certificate of Dedication

Child's Full Name (Please Print)

Date of Birth _____

City of Birth _____

State of Birth _____

We prefer to present our child to the Lord at the
 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. service.

We would like for Pastor _____
to perform the dedication.

Dedications take place several times per year.
You will be contacted regarding the next
dedication service.

Please provide a photo of your family AND your
child when you submit your application (digital
photos preferred to leslie@vmc.net). We will
return any photos submitted for scanning.

If available, would you want a videotape of the
dedication? Yes No