

A Special Day, a Special Calling

Parent/Child Dedications at Faith Community Church are a joyful recognition that every child is a gift from God. As parents, you have a responsibility before God to develop that gift-to mold and shape, to Shepard and nurture this precious life.

We want you to know that you do not face this responsibility alone. As your church family, we stand with you. Our desire is to encourage your walk with God as a parent, and to provide teaching for both you and your child as you work at the challenging and rewarding job of parenting. Dedication is an opportunity for you to publicly commit yourselves before God, family and friends to raising your child in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

As you stand to make your commitment, please know that we as a body are challenged to offer you support through prayer and encouragement. We do not take that challenge lightly. Rather we rigorously view it as a priority task. Our greatest desire is to assist you in any way that we can to help you child grow in his or her own personal faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. We are praying with you for the dedication ceremony, that this experience will bring deep meaning and significance to your family.



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FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH



*Parent/Child Dedication
Ceremony*

Parent/Child Dedication

Here at Faith Community Church, **Parent/Child Dedication** is an opportunity for you to actively dedicate yourself before God, to provide everything necessary for the growth of your child physically, mentally, emotionally, socially and spiritually. In dedicating your child, you are acknowledging your need for the Lord's help. Parents are devoting themselves to train their child in the ways of the Lord with the hope that the child will one day make the decision to follow Christ.

✠ Proverbs 22:6 "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."

During the child dedication Ceremony, parents publicly vow:

✠ Their children belong to the Lord.

✠ They will do everything they can to see that their children are raised in accordance with the Word of God.

✠ They will be open to the support and prayer of others for the child and for them as parents in raising the child.

Faith Community Church's Beliefs:

We believe dedication is not a sacrament; it cannot impart grace or salvation to your child. Salvation only comes through Jesus Christ as each person recognizes his or her sinfulness and receives forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. The scriptural root for this type of dedication is found in 1 Samuel 1:27-28 and Luke 2:22 where Joseph and Mary "presented" Jesus to the Father.

✠ 1 Samuel 1:27-28 "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."

✠ Luke 2:22 "...so his parents took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord."

Dedication vs. Baptism:

We, as a church believe baptism to be a public declaration of an individual's decision to follow Christ. Since infants are not yet capable of making such a decision of the will, we reserve baptism for believers. Believers being those who have made a decision of the will to accept Christ as their personal Savior.

For more information on Baptism and Dedication, call the Church office to find out when the next GLASS 101 class is being offered.

Faith Community Church's Commitment:

As your church family, we commit to come alongside your family with support, teaching, encouragement and prayer.

The Parents Commitment:

1. That they have personally received Jesus Christ as their Savior and that Jesus is the Lord of their lives.
2. That their homes will be a home where Jesus is the central figure... a home where the Bible is honored as God's Word, is read and obeyed.
3. In committing their child to the Lord that day, they are anticipating by faith that he/she will someday receive Christ as their personal Savior.
4. That they will give their time, energy, devotion, and prayers to instill within their child an appetite for spiritual things regardless of the sacrifice this entails.
5. Publicly confess their need for God to enable them to be godly parents for the child

Child Dedication Service Details:

Parents are asked to fill out the enclosed Child Dedication Information Sheet three to four weeks before the desired time of dedication. Then the parents are required to meet with the Children's Ministry Director two weeks prior to the service for a parent/child Dedication class.

You may want to invite friends and relatives to witness the event and choose to host a small reception in the Mustard Seed Café' after the service. Please feel free to let us know ahead of time.

Thank you for allowing us to share this special time in your life.