



**PARENT
CHILD
DEDICATION**

PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION



Dear Friends of Christ's Chapel,

Congratulations are in order! You are either expecting a child or have already stepped into the world of parenting. Some of you, perhaps, are now veterans having had more than one child. Either way, your life is probably now exhausting as well as filled with joy. I'm excited for you and excited for our church as we have the joy of walking a path together that hopefully is years in the making and certainly goes beyond the Parent/Child Dedication that's happening in just a few weeks.

This class is designed to help us get prepared for the Parent/Child Dedication service. Thank you for taking the time to be here. Thank you also with helping us with the processing of a little information that helps to make the day of the dedication more special.

In this class we will discuss a few specifics about the Parent/Child Dedication itself. We will need to know what service you'd like to attend. We also schedule a short reception immediately after the service for you to receive a few gifts from the church in honor of this moment. Your family and close friends are encouraged to join you for that reception.

Again, congratulations! Parenting is the highest honor we receive on this earth. As someone that has walked this journey ahead of you, it goes by quicker than you can imagine so enjoy the journey. Also, let me encourage you to serve the Lord faithfully. Our kids need to see genuine faith lived out in the trenches. The daily journey you take as a follower of Jesus Christ will have everlasting impressions on your children.

Our church is here to serve you. Our pastors desire to walk with you and help you along the way. Please never hesitate to ask for help, for some prayer, and some advice if you'd like to hear from some of us that have made our own mistakes but hopefully have learned from them... and seen God's faithfulness in our own journeys. Blessings to you, and your new child!

Sincerely,

Terry Crigger

Terry Crigger, Senior Pastor

PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION



PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION CLASS OUTLINE

Introductions: Tell Us About Your Family

A Brief Look at the Act of Dedication in the Scriptures

What Will the Parent/Child Dedication Look Like

Where Should My Family and Close Friends Sit

The Reception: Who Is Invited To Attend

A Prayer of Blessing

Understanding Parent/Child Dedication

Parent/Child Dedication is established for us through the presentation of Samuel by Hannah (1 Samuel 1:28), and of Jesus by Joseph and Mary (Luke 2:22). Specifically, the Parent/Child Dedication service is a special celebration of faith, an acknowledgement that God has blessed you with a child, and a public proclamation that parents will raise their child to follow Christ. It is the parents' commitment to bring up their child in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4, Colossians 3:21). It is a formal appeal to God for His assistance in raising the child He has entrusted to them.

Parent/Child Dedication is not to be confused with infant baptism and neither is it an agent of salvation. The Bible is clear that we are saved by God's grace, not by dedication, baptism, or our own works. Salvation comes to a child through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Your child will come to an age of understanding when he or she is mature enough to grasp a faith decision for him or herself. (Only God truly knows what age and it may differ for each child) The decision to be baptized is one to be made by a person who is mature enough to understand the importance of that decision. At Christ's Chapel, children are encouraged to be baptized only after extensive conversation with their parents and perhaps one of our pastors.

So the question could be asked, "If it doesn't lead to salvation, why is Parent/Child Dedication important?" "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him." Psalm 127:3. Children belong first and foremost to God. We have an awesome responsibility to care for and enjoy this gift! It is only proper that they be dedicated back to Him.

In this commitment of parents to honor the Word of God, parents are asked to:

1. Publicly affirm one's personal faith in Christ, and commit to Him and His Word. (John 3:16)
2. Pray for God's direction in your life and in the life of your child. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
3. Anticipate and seek to lead your child to a personal faith in Christ. (Mark 10:13-16)
4. Love your child with much affection and careful discipline. (Ephesians 6:4)
5. Faithfully attend church with your children. (Hebrews 10:25)
6. Teach your children the truths of God's Word in your home. (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

Spiritual Training of Your Children

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - "And these words which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up."

Jeremiah 1:7-9 "And the Lord said to me, Do not say, I am a youth, Because everywhere I send you, you shall go, and all that I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord. Then the Lord stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, Behold, I have put My words in your mouth."

Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it. " God has a plan for each child.

Mark 10:13-16 - And they were bringing children to Him so that He might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, "Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these...and He took them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands upon them.

2 Timothy 3:15 - "And that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION FORM

DATE OF DEDICATION: _____

CAMPUS: ERLANGER/ NEWPORT

CHILD'S FULL NAME: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

HOSPITAL/PLACE OF BIRTH: _____
INCLUDE CITY & STATE

PARENTS: _____

***** PARENTS ONLY ALLOWED ON STAGE**

HOW MANY FRIENDS/FAMILY DO YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE SERVICE
WITH YOU?: _____

PLEASE LIST HOW MANY FRIENDS AND FAMILY YOU ANTICIPATE ATTENDING
THE RECEPTION BELOW:

HAVE YOU ATTENDED A DEDICATION CLASS? Y/N

IF YES WHEN: _____

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Our heart at Christ's Chapel is always to move people forward in their personal faith and to strengthen their family commitments. Events on the church calendar such as water baptism, church membership and baby dedications are wonderful opportunities to build faith and families. As such, discussion time in classes leading up to these events include dialogue on genuine faith and discipleship; along with marriage and family life from a biblical perspective. If desired, private meetings with Pastor Terry are available and can be conveniently scheduled.