



7. Additional Suggestions:

1. Invite your relatives and friends to join you for this service. It is a meaningful opportunity for those who would not normally attend a church service.
2. Choose a life verse for your child. Spend time thinking and praying about your child and what verse might be helpful for spiritual growth in the years to come.
3. Consider a "god parent" for your child. This would be someone who would stand by the child, pray and model the Christian life. The god parent(s) also could support the parents in times of need. Specify in your wills who you would choose to be your child's guardian in the case of your unexpected deaths.
4. Be sure to carefully read over and pray about the commitments that you will be making at the service.

*If you have further questions
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Child Dedication Brochure.pub – Revised: 2/15/11

Child Dedication



*"Let the little children
come to me,
and do not hinder them,
for the kingdom of heaven
belongs to such as these."*

Matthew 19:14

1. What is Child Dedication?

A Child Dedication Service is the time for three very important commitments. First, the parents commit themselves, before God and the Church, to raise their child in the "training and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). Second, they dedicate the child to the Lord, trusting that the child will soon come to personal faith in Jesus Christ as his or her Savior. Thirdly, it is also a time when the Church family commits themselves to encourage and support the parents as they raise their child. The Service itself communicates no saving grace but is a time of important commitments.

2. It is taught by example in the Bible

Jesus was dedicated to the Lord!

Luke 2:22-23

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 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"),

Samuel's mother dedicated him to the Lord!

1 Samuel 1:28

"So now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life he will be given over to the LORD." And he worshipped the LORD there.

Timothy became a man of God!

2 Timothy 3:14-15

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

3. God clearly teaches the importance of raising godly children!

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 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. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the door-frames of your houses and on your gates.

Ephesians 6:4

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

4. Children have great value to the Lord!

Mark 10:14-16

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.

5. Commitments for the Parents:

1. Do you recognize your child as God's gift to you? Psalm 127:3
2. Do you present your child to the Lord and surrender all of your claims upon your child's life?

3. Do you promise to give your child the benefits of a loving Christian home, a caring church, and an education that will equip the child to make the most of their God given gifts and abilities?

4. With God's help, will you bring up your child in the training and instruction of the Lord, making every effort to build the Word of God and Christ-like character into your child's life?

5. Will you pray regularly that your child will personally accept Jesus Christ as their Savior?

6. The Child Dedication Procedure:

1. The parents contact the pastor to discuss child dedication and how it will work.
2. The date is set.
3. Usually the order for this portion of the service is as follows:
 - ♦ Parents and child come to the front
 - ♦ Scripture is read
 - ♦ The parent's commitment is stated
 - ♦ The churches' commitment is stated
 - ♦ The parents and church are asked for a response
 - ♦ Prayer of dedication
 - ♦ Certificate of Dedication is presented

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