

## Frequently Asked Questions

- 1) What is the recommended age for Parent/Baby Dedication?
  - For the child to be under two years of age.
- 2) Is Baby Dedication the same as baby christening or infant baptism?
  - No, the following statements lead us to what the New Testament teaches regarding baptism. All believers should make sure that their baptism supports these great truths. The Bible teaches that the proper motivation for baptism is an outward expression of an inward trust in the Lord Jesus Christ to save. Baptism by immersion is a symbol of what happened to a believer. It illustrates the death and burial of old life, and resurrection to newness of life. Therefore, baptism does not take place until the individual is old enough to publicly express their open faith in Christ. Anyone baptized before they were saved or in order to be saved has not had New Testament baptism. Matthew 28:19-20 commands baptism. Romans 6 illustrates baptism.
- 3) What if I am a single parent?
  - We would need to discuss the circumstances with the single parent before setting up the dedication.
- 4) Can we take pictures and/or video tape the dedication?
  - Yes, you can allow friends or other family members to do this for you.
- 5) Will there be reserved seating for our extended family?
  - No, please have them arrive early.
- 6) What should our baby wear?
  - Casual or Sunday best.
- 7) How do I sign up for Parent/Baby Dedication?
  - Call the Preschool Office to find out the next scheduled Parent/Baby Dedication and to register your baby.
  - A slide show of the babies participating in baby dedication will be shown during the service. The Preschool Office will need a picture of your baby for the slide show and a brief paragraph about your baby and your desire to dedicate him/her (this information must be approved in advance).

## ABC's of Christian Parenting

The best model for parenting is God, the Father, who offers you unconditional love through Jesus Christ. The following scriptures will help you know what the Bible says about new life in Christ.

1. God loves you. (John 3:15, 10:10)
2. You are a sinner in need of forgiveness. (Romans 3:23; 6:23)
3. God wants to forgive you. (Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 3:18)
4. You must turn away from your sins. (Luke 13:5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
5. You must place faith in God's son, Jesus Christ. (Acts 20:21; John 14:6)

Through prayer, you can experience new life in Christ.

According to Romans 10:9-10 & 13 you should:

**A**dmit to God you are a sinner and that you desire to turn away from your sins.

**B**elieve in Jesus. Thank Him for dying on the cross and rising from the dead for your sins.

**C**all on Jesus to save you. Ask Him to come into your life as Savior and Lord.

Let us know if you have made this commitment. We want to pray for your new life in Christ.

If you have further questions, please contact the Preschool Office at 770-978-5750.

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What is a

# PARENT/BABY DEDICATION?

*A Guide to Understanding  
the Biblical Principles of a  
Parent/Baby Dedication*



## Biblical Parenting

The Parent/Baby Dedication is a special opportunity for Christian parents to publicly dedicate themselves to raise their children according to Scripture, and offer their children to the loving care and keeping of the Lord.

The practice of Parent/Baby Dedication is found in the Bible when Hannah presents Samuel to the Lord and when Joseph and Mary present Jesus at the temple. (1 Samuel 1:28, Luke 2:22, NKJV)

The numerous Scripture references concerning parenting help us to realize its importance to God. From the very beginning of the family, He established the best plans for children and their parents, and He shares them in His Word, the Bible.

For example, God commands parents to love Him and His commands, and then teach these to their children, so that their children may also have a relationship with the Lord:

*“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”*

(Deuteronomy 6:5-9, NKJV)

*And that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

(2 Timothy 3:15, NKJV)

*And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.*

(Ephesians 6:4, NKJV)

*...[We will tell] the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done . . . that they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments. . . .*

(Psalm 78:4 & 7, NKJV)

## Church Involvement

The Parent/Baby Dedication is also a time in which the church congregation commits to help support the parents in the nurturing and spiritual well training of their child. The church desires to minister to the needs of families by building relationships and serving them with enthusiasm.

God commands the church body to minister to each member as well:

*...But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.*

(1 Corinthians 12:24-26, NKJV)

*Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.*

(Philippians 2:4, NKJV)

*Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous.*

(1 Peter 3:8, NKJV)



## Prayer

The Parent/Baby Dedication is a time of prayer as well. The parents, pastor, and congregation pray that parents will raise their children to follow the Lord, and that each child will someday accept Jesus Christ as his or her personal Savior and Lord.

God also calls parents to pray for their children continually:

*I do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.*

(Ephesians 1:16-17, NKJV)

*Pray without ceasing.*

(1 Thessalonians 5:17, NKJV)

*...The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*

(James 5:16b, NKJV)



## Additional Information

- We recommend that both parents are Christian believers, having accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord.
- We also recommend that at least one parent be a member of First Baptist Church Snellville before participating in the dedication.
- This will enable the church body to better minister to the family.