

Dedicating Children to God

Thanks for letting us know about your desire to dedicate your child to the Lord! Please take a moment to review the biblical basis for a public dedication. Then provide us with details to help us plan the service that day.

Here are some biblical reasons why we dedicate children to the Lord:

1. God loves children—they bring us closer to his kingdom! *One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could touch them and bless them, but the disciples told them not to bother him. But when Jesus saw what was happening, he was very displeased with his disciples. He said to them, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! **For the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.** I assure you, anyone who doesn't have their kind of faith will never get into the Kingdom of God." Then he took the children into his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them.* (Mark 10:13-16, NLT) [also in Luke 18:15-17; Matt. 19:13-15]

2. We need God's help to raise our children in difficult days. It is good to dedicate our children to the Lord as a sign of our personal faith and our commitment to give them the best chance for living a God-honoring life in a sinful world. ... *You are to live clean, innocent lives as children of God in a dark world full of crooked and perverse people. Let your lives shine brightly before them.* (Phil 2:15, NLT)

3. All we have belongs to God—including our families. God has entrusted us with caring for and training our children. *And now a word to you fathers. Don't make your children angry by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction approved by the lord.* (Eph 6:4, NLT) *Fathers, don't aggravate your children. If you do, they will become discouraged and quit trying.* (Col 3:21, NLT)

Are you ready to make this important public commitment? Please answer the following:

1. Have we committed ourselves to Christ? Are we growing in our personal relationship with the Lord? Have we made Jesus the highest priority in our lives and in our home?

Yes No

2. Do we attend worship services regularly? Have we made a commitment to worship with God's people and to learn from God's Word?

Yes No

3. Does our life-style honor the Lord? Do we model the kind of behavior that will teach our child God's ways and God's values?

Yes No

If you can answer "yes" to all these questions, then you are ready to publicly dedicate your child to the Lord. If you answered "no" or have any questions about any of these areas, then you may want to talk to a pastor before proceeding with your plans to dedicate your child.

Here is a sample of the public commitment you will be making on "Dedication Weekend":

Vow of commitment: _____ and _____ today you are giving your new son/daughter, _____, back to God. Will you pledge to teach him/her God's Word and raise him/her by its truths, teaching by your words and example what it means to follow Jesus? Will you bring him/her up in the training and the instruction of the Lord so he/she can one day have the opportunity to receive Christ by faith as his/her personal Lord and Savior?

Here are details we'd like to receive from you as we prepare for our "Dedication Weekend" scheduled for _____.

We plan to dedicate our child:

Sat. 6:00 PM Sun. 8:30 AM Sun. 10:30 AM

Full name of child to be dedicated: _____

Date of birth: _____

Parents' names: _____

Meaning of baby's name: _____

[If you know this, we may be able to use it in the dedication. If you don't know the meaning, we have a book that explains the definitions of various names.]

[Optional] Scripture Passage(s): _____

[If you have a favorite verse that God gave you that would pertain to your child or a verse that ties in with the meaning of your child's name.]

Do you have a special song that you'd like to request at the dedication? If so, what is it? _____

Additional interesting comments or facts regarding your child's birth or life: _____

Other family members who plan to be present at the dedication: _____

Extended family and relatives who plan to be present: _____

Please carefully read this pamphlet and fill out the form inside. Tear off form and return it to the church office by:

NOTE: Please include at least 3-5 photos of your child (alone and with parents or family members).

**You may email digital photos to:
info@cloquetchurch.com.

If you have any questions, please call the church office at 879-6765.



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*"Helping each other take the next step
on our journey with Christ"*



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