



FAITH PATH

Parent Dedication

Commit to Raising Your Child
In a God Honoring Home

Congratulations! If you are reading this, your family was recently blessed with a new baby or you are possibly new to Calvary. As a church, we are excited to partner with you as you begin this incredible journey with your child.

What is Parent Dedication?

Parent Dedication is a special time during a weekend service in which you make a formal commitment to raise your child in a Christ-centered home. We see several examples in the Bible such as I Samuel 1:24 – 2:10 when Hannah dedicated Samuel at the temple and Luke 2 where Mary and Joseph dedicated Jesus. During the two week class leading up to the dedication service you will be asked to make a commitment that you will raise your child to know, love, and follow Christ. Standing in the dedication service is a public pledge before the congregation of what you have committed to in the class. God designed the home as the primary place for faith to be nurtured. One way that we seek to partner with you is by providing resources throughout your child's spiritual journey. We call this the Faith Path. Parent dedication is the first step.

The Parent's Commitment

Parent Dedication is *your* commitment to model, teach and reinforce the Christian Faith. It should not be confused with *your child's* personal choice to follow Christ. We believe the Bible clearly teaches that each person must decide for themselves to trust in Jesus Christ as both Savior and Lord (Romans 10:9-10). The age a child is ready to make this personal decision will vary depending on the child.

The Church's Commitment

Parent Dedication is also a time for the church to commit to walk alongside you as you point your child toward Christ. We have classes to guide and give ideas for each step of the way, from birth to age eighteen. Each of these classes are led by mentors who want to come alongside you and give you the tools to raise your children through each milestone.

Parent Dedication Steps

1. Sign up for Parent Dedication by calling the office.
2. Attend the Parent Dedication Faith Path Classes.
3. Fill out your Family Faith Plan that will be provided at the Parent Dedication Faith Path Classes.
4. Participate in an upcoming Parent Dedication Weekend Celebration.

Parent Dedication Celebration Ideas

Ideas for making dedication a special time include...

- Have a dinner or celebration time with family and friends before/after the weekend service.
- Invite family members and special family friends to write blessings to your child to share with them later in life. Make sure that you write one too!
- Record a video message for your child to view in the future. Speak words of affirmation, sharing how you are praying for their spiritual journey and how you desire to point them toward Christ. You can also write a letter if that works better for you.

Intentional Faith Path Plan

Child's Name: _____

How will you be intentional this next year?

- Pray daily for my child.
- Attend church regularly.
- Consistently spend time in God's Word.
- _____

The next step on the Faith Path is *Blessing*, recommended at age three. Pick up your *Blessing* Faith Path Pointer at the Home Life Resource Center.

Recommended Resources

- *Shepherding a Child's Heart* by Tedd Tripp

Calvary Bible Church Ministries

Children's Ministry · calvarybible.org

Faith at Home Faith Path "Parent Dedication" class