

## What is child dedication?

Child dedication is different from baptism. It is an event in which the parents present their children to God. It is a time for the parents and the church to ask God's blessing on your child. It's a time to pray for God's protection and care for your son or daughter.

In one sense, child dedication is really a parent dedication. This act by the parents is a prayerful declaration to set a Christ-like example for their children to follow. It is also a pledge to do all they can, as God gives them wisdom, to raise their child to respect and honor God and to love and serve Jesus Christ. Therefore, during the dedication, we will also be praying for you as a parent.

## Who should dedicate their child?

You should dedicate your child after making the decision that you personally want to set a Christian example in your home. None of us are perfect parents, but as Christians, we want to make sure we are heading in the right direction. Child dedication is a great time to recommit ourselves spiritually. Child dedication should express, not only your wish for God's best for your child, but also your active participation to train your child to follow Christ.

## How old should the child be?

Children can be of any age - from birth through grade school. It's never too late or too early to present our children to the Lord.

## How does child dedication compare to baptism?

The Bible teaches that baptism is for those who have personally made a decision to follow Christ. Baptism is something you decide to do when you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. To be baptized, a person has to be old enough to make that decision for themselves.

On the other hand, child dedication is a parent's decision. While all of us hope our children will grow up to follow Christ, we can't make that decision for them. The best we can do is present our children to Christ, pray for them and set a good example. That is what child dedication is all about.

## Teachings of Scripture

1 Samuel 1:26-28

As surely as you live, my Lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the Lord. I prayed for this child, and the Lord granted me what I asked Him. So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord.

Mark 10:13-16

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. 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.

Ephesians 6:4

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

Luke 2:22 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.

## What do I need to do next?

- Consider the meaning of child dedication
- Participate in our next child dedication

## For more information

Contact the children's director at 951-736-5433 or [kidzlife@newlifecommunitychurch.net](mailto:kidzlife@newlifecommunitychurch.net)

Visit our website at [newlifecommunitychurch.net](http://newlifecommunitychurch.net)

Fill out a connecting card.

**New Life Community Church**  
**a church for today's generation**

2175 Sampson Avenue #108  
Corona, California 92879  
951-736-5433  
[www.newlifecommunitychurch.net](http://www.newlifecommunitychurch.net)

# Child Dedication



**New Life Community Church**  
**a church for today's generation**