# **Answers to Frequently Asked Questions**

# Why do we need to have a Child Dedication interview?

- 1. To answer any questions you may have about child dedication.
- 2. To guide you in preparing your dedication and to help you select an appropriate scripture verse for your child.
- 3. To give the ministerial staff assurance that you clearly understand the specifics and distinctions Ellerslie Road Baptist Church places upon the ceremony of child dedication.

### Who is involved in a Child Dedication?

The Bible does not specifically address a formal child dedication ceremony. But parents and families who want to praise and honor God for the new life they have been blessed with are encouraged to do so in a Child Dedication service. Friends and relatives are also invited at this time to pledge support and encouragement in raising this new child in the instruction and guidance of the Lord.

### What does Child Dedication NOT do?

 It does not make a child forgiven before God. An individual is completely and totally forgiven through a personal relationship with Christ (Acts 10:43). We believe that as your child comes to more fully understand their need for a Savior, opportunities to make a personal commitment to follow Jesus Christ will present themselves in the future.

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- 2. It does not make a child more prone to becoming a Christian. No extra grace or favor is bestowed upon the child in the ceremony. The ceremony is more about the parents and family dedication themselves to raise the child in a godly home and does nothing to insure grace for the child.
- It does not result in eternal life. A person is given eternal life by their faith alone (apart from any works) in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:8-9).

### What does Child Dedication do?

- Child Dedication publicly declares to God the gratitude of parents, family, and friends of the child for the precious and awesome gift of life, childhood, and family (Psalm 127:3-5).
- 2. Child Dedication allows parents, family, and friends to covenant with God to raise the child in the fear and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4).

#### Please Note:

The family will be responsible for any photographic images. However, we will prepare a commemorative keepsake containing your own child's birth and dedication details. This is our gift to you as a reminder of this special service and your commitment to raising this child in the instruction and guidance of the Lord.

# Parents' explanation of why they wish to dedicate their child

Approximately one paragraph (25-30 words). Please phrase these words to your child.

# Information needed...

Last Name	
Child's First Name	
Middle Names(s)	
Birth date	
Dad's Name	
Mom's Name	
Place of Birth (city)	
Mailing Address (Home address/ City/Prov./Postal )	
Home Phone	
Daytime Phone	
Email Address	
Family members to Be recognized <i>(siblings)</i>	
Selected Bible Verse	
Version	

## What is Child Dedication?

Child dedication is a ceremony in which believing parents, and sometimes entire families, make a commitment before the Lord to submit a child to God's will and to raise that child according to God's Word and God's ways. It is a voluntary act of worship on the part of the parents. If a child is not dedicated, there is no loss of blessing or favor from God.

# Why would someone want to dedication their child?

Christian parents who dedicate a child are making a promise to the Lord to do everything within their power to raise the child in a godly way, prayerfully until he or she can make a decision on his or her own to follow God. Parents who make this vow of commitment are instructed to raise the child in the ways of God, and not according to their own ways. Some of the responsibilities include teaching and training the child in God's Word, demonstrating an example of godliness, disciplining according to God's ways, and praying earnestly for the child. Child dedication is more about the commitment of the parents than the blessing of the child.

You should dedicate your child if you, a) realize that this ceremony has nothing to do with the child's salvation, b) desire to praise God for the new life you are blessed to nurture, c) commit to raising this child in the community of faith and love of Jesus Christ.



Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from Him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they content with their opponents in court. Psalm 127:3-5

