

# CHILD DEDICATION



# WELCOME!

Crosspoint City Church wants to be a strong source of support for you in raising your children to understand what it means to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We also recognize that a child's home environment has more influence in his or her life than what goes on at church. That's why it is important for us to partner with you as parents. One way that we do this is by facilitating child dedications.

Child Dedication is a celebration offered at Crosspoint City Church. We offer Child Dedication because we recognize the importance of having an opportunity to publicly dedicate your child and family to God and accept the responsibility to nurture, teach and care for your child in a Christian home. We're excited to be a part of this special occasion with you!

## WHAT IS CHILD DEDICATION?

Psalm 127 states that *"children are a heritage from the Lord. They are a reward from Him."*

Children are God's gift to us. As parents, we are called to steward well the gifts He gives us. We are called to nurture, raise, and train our child "in the way he should go" so "when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6) Ultimately, parents have been entrusted by God to spiritually train their children. Child Dedication is an expression of the parents' commitment to raise their children to grow in knowledge of Jesus Christ and to eventually walk in relationship with Him.

Child Dedication is a time for family, friends, and church to praise God for the gifts of children and to commit to partner with parents as they dedicate their children and parenting efforts to the Lord. Child Dedication isn't a required spiritual practice, however we do see where children were dedicated to the Lord in the scriptures. In 1 Samuel 1:27-28 we see how Hannah took her son Samuel to the temple to dedicate him to the Lord. Also in Luke 2:21-38 we see Mary and Joseph taking Jesus to the Temple to be dedicated.

# WHAT ISN'T CHILD DEDICATION?

Child Dedication is not baptism. It is not a “spiritual step” and does not signify salvation. Since we see baptism as something done after making a clear decision to follow Jesus, we do not baptize infants or young children. We absolutely believe that a child can make this decision on their own. Baptism occurs in the Bible as a public display of an individual having entered into a relationship with Jesus Christ and is old enough to repent of sin and confess Jesus publicly. Acts 8:12, Acts 8:13, Acts 18:8, Acts 19:4-5

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN DEDICATION?

Dedication is open to parents who can truthfully say: *As a follower of Jesus Christ, I entrust my child to God's providential plan and care. I will commit to instructing my child by word and example, in the truth of God's Word. I commit to praying with and for my child.*

### **Can a child be too old to be dedicated?**

Not really. Technically the dedication is a prayer of dedication for parents as well as the child. Usually, the child being dedicated though is not yet old enough to really understand what it means to follow Christ.

However, if your child is old enough to understand, this would be a great opportunity to talk about what it means to follow Christ. If this is your case, let us know, as we would love to help support you.

*Child Dedication is an expression of the parents' commitment to raise their children to grow in knowledge of Jesus Christ and to eventually walk in relationship with Him.*

# BEFORE DEDICATION DAY

## **Submit a personal Dedication statement.**

During the Dedication gathering, we will read a statement you've written. This brief statement (2-3 sentences) is a personal message sharing why you are dedicating your child.

## **Invite family and friends to the gathering.**

Invite your family, friends, small group, and anyone else in your circle to celebrate with and pray for you and your child on this day.

# WHAT IS THE DEDICATION GATHERING LIKE?

Child Dedication will consist of Worship, pastoral message, the reading of your Dedication messages, family dedications, and prayer.

There are some campus specifics that our team will communicate to you as Dedication day approaches.



*Questions?*

Our team is here to help!  
email: [kids@crosspointcity.com](mailto:kids@crosspointcity.com)

[crosspointcity.church](http://crosspointcity.church)