



Welcome

(Pastor will introduce your family, sharing the basic information you provided about your child and your family)

Commitments

(Led by Pastor)

While the primary aim of this gathering is the blessing and dedication of [Child's Name], Child Dedication is also a moment for parents to commit—in the presence of Community—to the ongoing work of discipleship in their home, namely by raising their kids in the way of Jesus. As they do, [Parent's Names] are establishing their parenting in the wisdom of the book of Proverbs: “Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.” (Prov. 22:6).

After the parents make these commitments, we, as a church community, will commit to partner in helping them with this task. Once these commitments are made, the parents will dedicate the child.

Commitment of the Parents

(Led by Pastor)

As the parents of this precious child, you are now invited to make the following commitments. After I read each commitment, if you agree, say “we do.”

Pastor: [Parent's Names], do you affirm [Child's Name] as an image bearer of God and receive [him/her] as a gift from God?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Do you freely desire to dedicate [Child's Name] to God, in the presence of these people, in thankfulness, humility, and love?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Do you commit to provide for [his/her] physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs to the best of your ability, and by doing so modeling the sacrificial love of Jesus towards [him/her]?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Do you commit to raise [Child's name] in the way of Jesus, to model the practices of Jesus in your home, to surround [him/her] with Christian community, to pray for [him/her], and to pursue [his/her] transformation into Christlikeness above all else?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Do you commit to order your family—your time, your commitments, your relationships, your finances, and your values—around the way of Jesus, in all things yielding to the authority of the Father and listening to the Spirit as you parent, and in doing so maintain rich spiritual soil for [Child's name] to grow an authentic and resilient faith in Jesus?

Parents: We do.

Commitment of the Community

(Led by Pastor)

As the Community that surrounds this beloved family, we are now invited to make the following commitments to them, as brothers and sisters. After I read each commitment, if you agree, say “we do.”

Pastor: Do you commit to pray for, encourage, and support [Parents' names] as they seek to lead their family in the way of Jesus?

Church Community: We do.

Pastor: Do you commit to doing life with this family, taking communion with them, serving one another, sharing resources as needed, pursuing unity, and practicing the way of Jesus? And, as you do, modeling mature, Christian community to [Child's Name] as they grow?

Church Community: We do.

Pastor: Do you commit, as brothers and sisters, to continually and lovingly welcome [Child's name] into the family of God and affirm their significance in the Kingdom of God, so that they never doubt their belonging amongst His people?

Church Community: We do.

Dedication

(Read by parents)

We, your parents, in the presence of community, dedicate you, [Child's Name], to God. We surrender all of our worldly control, personal dreams, and exclusive claims on your life for the greater hope that you might know the fullness of God's love for you, be united with God in Christ, and one day see Him face to face and reign with Him forever.

Blessing

(Led by Pastor)

To honor these commitments, let us bless and commission these families in this good work. [Parents' Names], be blessed with the knowledge that the Creator of all will go before you and your children all the days of your life and theirs. And be blessed with an ever-increasing awareness of God's presence as you nurture His beloved one, trusting that He who is beginning a good work in them, will carry it to completion. We bless you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

[Child's Name], you are fearfully and wonderfully made by the Creator of all. Since the beginning of time, you have been known by Him. He is familiar with who you are and who you are becoming. May you grow to love God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. May his presence go with you all the days of your life. We bless you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Closing Prayer

(Pastor closes in prayer)