


Baby Dedication



*The painting was used by permission of Joonho Kim,
Pastor of Calvary Chapel of Sahuarita, Arizona.
Prints are available in The Chapel Store*

Baby Dedications

at

 calvarychapel **downey**

"Hear O Israel: The Lord our God is one, Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. These commandments that I give to you today are to be upon your hearts, Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Deuteronomy 6:4-7

As Christian parents, you have been blessed with the responsibility of raising your child in the ways of our Lord. Dedicating your child is making a promise to God and a public commitment to do everything within your power to raise them in a godly way until he or she can make that decision on their own to follow God. Here at Calvary Chapel Downey we believe that building this solid foundation early in your child's life is of the utmost importance along with training the child in God's Word, demonstrating an example of godliness and disciplining them according to God's ways.

We would like to assist you in the process of dedicating your child with the information below:

- Go to the Chapel Store and purchase the CD Packet "Parent/Child Relationships"
- Listen to the CD's and answer the questions in the baby dedication packet
- Call the church office and set up an appointment with a pastor
- Bring the baby dedication packet with you to the appointment
- Meet with a pastor
- Set a date for the baby dedication

Please Note: Here at Calvary Chapel Downey we require that baby dedications are limited to children who are 5 years old or younger. In addition, we find that not only is this a time for your baby to be dedicated but a time for you, the parent, to be dedicated to make the commitment to raising your child in the ways of the Lord. Therefore any parent dedicating their child needs to have a personal relationship with our Lord.

If you have any questions please feel free to call us here at Calvary Chapel Downey.

Jesus said, "Come unto me...learn of me...and ye shall find rest unto your souls!" Matthew 11:28, 29

3rd Dedication

Basis for Baby Dedication:

The Lord has given Christian parents a tremendous responsibility to raise and nurture their children in His ways from the very beginning. This responsibility of building a solid foundation involves both the mother and the father. Because of this, Calvary Chapel of Downey also likes to dedicate both parents at the time of the baby dedication. In Proverbs 20:25 we are warned that it is a snare for a man to make a vow and later find that he cannot keep it. **Therefore, here at Calvary Chapel Downey, we will decline any request to dedicate a parent who does not know Jesus as his or her personal Savior and Lord.** Please take a few minutes to read over Numbers 30:2, Deuteronomy 23:21-23, Ecclesiastes 5:4, and Acts 5:1-11. These sections of Scripture make it clear that all vows made to the Lord should be respected and therefore kept. We in no way desire to place anybody in a position of breaking a vow to God. We believe this to be an action of protection and not denial.

An appropriate illustration of child dedication is found in I Samuel 1:11. This chapter shows Hannah, a woman who was barren for many years, weeping before the Lord because of her condition. It was at this time that she made a vow unto the Lord. "And she vowed a vow, and said, 'O Lord of hosts, if Thou wilt indeed look onto the affliction of Thy handmaid, and remember me, and not forget Thy handmaid, but wilt give unto Thy handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life.'" God honored her request with a son named Samuel. Hannah kept her vow to the Lord and dedicated Samuel unto the Lord. For an additional example also see Luke 2:22.

It is the parents' obligation to dedicate or set apart their child unto God until the day that child is able to make this choice for himself. For this reason, baby dedications are limited to children who are 5 years old or younger. Once a child begins to reason for himself, the decision regarding a relationship with Jesus should be his own. Our hope is that you will understand our standpoint regarding baby dedication. The dedication of your child and your family to God is a commitment not to be entered into lightly.

Now begin by listening to the CD "Parenting God's Way" from the Parent/Child Relationship packet and answer the following questions.

Pastor Jeff Johnson "Train Up and Child" – Ephesians 6:4

1. Pastor Jeff mentions two ways to represent God. What are they? (Ps 127:5)
2. Are children a curse or a blessing? (Gen 4:1, 29:31, Ps 127:3)
3. What is the key to victory in the home? (Ps 127:1)
4. Nourishing our children is a positive aspect. How is this described on the CD? (Eph 6:4, 5:29)
5. What should our goals be as parents? (3 John 4)
6. Parents can be 90% effective. List what was mentioned on the CD.
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
7. Please list the five things kids need as stated on the CD. (Col 3:21)
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
 - E.
8. What is the key to training as stated by Pastor Jeff?
9. What are we to concentrate on?

The following is a list of books recommended (not required) for parents who desire to have their child dedicated.

- ☞ “Bringing Up Girls” by Dr. James Dobson
- ☞ “Bringing Up Boys” by Dr. James Dobson
- ☞ “The New Dare to Discipline” by Dr. James Dobson
- ☞ “Parenting: From Surviving to Thriving” by Charles Swindoll
- ☞ “Confident Parenting” by Jim Burns
- ☞ “Raising a Godly Family in An Ungodly World” by Raul Ries

*Note: When you return your dedication packet to the front office, you need to schedule a counseling appointment with a pastor and set-up a dedication date.

Scheduled appointment:

Pastor _____ Date: ____/____/____ Receptionist Initials _____

Baby Dedication scheduled

Office Manager _____ Date: ____/____/____

Pastor's Notes:
