

# PARENT DEDICATION

## Commit to Raise Your Children in A God-honoring Home

### What is Parent Dedication?

Parent Dedication is a special time offered 2-3 times a year during the 10:45 a.m. worship service in which you make a formal commitment to raise your child in a Christ-centered home. We see several examples in the Bible such as I Samuel 1:24 - 2:10 when Hannah dedicated Samuel at the temple and Luke 2 where Mary and Joseph dedicated Jesus. During the dedication you will be asked to make a public pledge before the congregation that you will raise your child to know, love and follow Jesus Christ. God designed the home as the primary place for faith to be nurtured. One way that we seek to partner with you is by providing resources throughout your child's spiritual journey. We call this the Faith Path. Parent Dedication is the first step.

### The Parent's Commitment

Parent Dedication is your commitment to model, teach and reinforce the Christian Faith. It should not be confused with *your child's* personal choice to follow Christ. We believe the Bible clearly teaches that each person must decide for themselves to trust in Jesus Christ as both Savior and Lord (Romans 10:9-10). The age a child is ready to make this personal decision will vary depending on the child.

### The Church's Commitment

Parent Dedication is also a time for the church to commit to walk alongside you as you point your child toward Christ. You will receive a gift called **My Faith Box** to provide ideas each step of the way, from birth to age eighteen. It is also a place for keepsake items from your child's spiritual journey.

### Parent Dedication Steps

- Sign up for Parent Dedication by emailing [Emily@waterlooroad.org](mailto:Emily@waterlooroad.org)
- Attend a Parent Dedication Class.
- Fill out your Family Faith Plan that will be provided at Parent Dedication Class.
- Participate in an upcoming Parent Dedication.

### Parent Dedication Celebration Ideas

Ideas for making dedication a special time include...

- Have a dinner or celebration time with family and friends before/after the weekend service.
- Invite family members and special family friends to write blessings to your child to put in their **My Faith Box**. Make sure that you write one too!
- Record a video message for your child to view in the future. Speak words of affirmation, sharing how you are praying for their spiritual journey and how you desire to point them toward Christ. Put the video in your child's **My Faith Box**. Examples are available for you to watch on the video included with this kit. You can also write a letter if that works better for you.



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### Intentional Faith Path Plan

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*How will you be intentional this next year?*

- Pray daily for my child.
- Attend church regularly.
- Consistently spend time in God's Word.
- \_\_\_\_\_

The next step on the Faith Path is *Blessing*, recommended at age three. We will offer a free *Blessing* kit to guide you. Request the *Blessing* kit by emailing [Emily@waterlooroad.org](mailto:Emily@waterlooroad.org)

#### RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

***Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles that Can Radically Change Your Family*** by Paul David Tripp

***My Faith Box*** by Lydia Randall from [myfaithbox.org](http://myfaithbox.org)

***Focus on the Family Complete Guide to Baby and Child Care*** by Paul C. Weisser

***The Ministry of Motherhood*** by Sally Clarkson

***The Power of a Praying Parent*** by Stormie Omartian

#### WATERLOO ROAD MINISTRIES

Childhood Ministry · [waterlooroad.org/ministry/childhood/](http://waterlooroad.org/ministry/childhood/)

HomePointe · [homepointe.org](http://homepointe.org)

