



CHILD DEDICATION

 KOINONIA
CHURCH

Welcome to Parenting

For some of you, this is your first step into an amazing adventure that will change everything. For others, this is not your first baby, but another in the journey God has for your family. In either case, life will change in every aspect. Time will be stretched and priorities will be increasingly more difficult to maintain. Life will quickly show us what we value as important simply because we won't have time or energy to do the extraneous things.

Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and your gates.

Deuteronomy 6:4

God calls parents to teach their kids the most important thing they could never learn: **To love God with all your heart, soul and strength.**

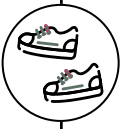
Take time at home to read the following verses and ask God to excite your heart around His passion for you to equip your child to follow Him.

Read These Verses:

- Psalm 78:1-7
- Deuteronomy 11:19
- Exodus 20:6
- Psalm 71:8
- Deuteronomy 5:31
- Proverbs 1:8
- 1 Chronicles 16:15
- Psalm 145:5
- Deuteronomy 4:10
- Psalm 34:11
- Deuteronomy 5:10
- Psalm 102:12



What Is A Milestone



THE MILESTONE PATH

A Simple Plan to Make an Eternal Difference!

Milestone 1

Parent / Child Dedication

Milestone 2

Salvation and Baptism

Milestone 3

Preparing for Adolescence

Milestone 4

Love Life

Milestone 5

Rite of Passage

Milestone 6

High School Graduation

Milestone 7

Life in Christ

Child Dedication

Principle 1

Children are a heritage and a gift, created in God's image.

Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb, a reward.

Psalms 127:3

Principle 2

Children need parents, not friends or caretakers. It will take your very best.

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

Proper discipline is crucial to raising godly children.

Proverbs 13:24; 29:17

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:4

A parent's discipline models God's discipline performed in love.

Proverbs 3:11, Hebrews 12:6-7

Principle 3

Children are His.

God blessed Hannah with a child, and she dedicated him to the Lord.

1 Samuel 1:28

Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple to dedicate Him according to Hebrew law.

Luke 2:22

Parent Dedication

Commitment 1

I will choose this day to live with the commands of God on my heart.

- *Are you walking the path?*

Commitment 2

I will accept responsibility to be my child's primary faith trainer and impress the truth and love of God on the heart of my child as we live life together.

- *Are you ready to lead?*

Commitment 3

I will love my child with the unconditional love of Christ.

- *Are you ready to love?*

Commitment 4

I will pray for my child to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

- *Are you ready to intercede?*

What Dedication is NOT

Baby dedication is not infant baptism.

Child dedication does not impart salvation.

Godparents: Godparents are a special tradition for many families and families are welcome to have godparents stand with them during the ceremony. However, godparents are not required at the ceremony.

Parent's Role

Dad's Vital Role

Love the Lord.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

Deuteronomy 6:5-6

Love Your Wife.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

Ephesians 5:25

Love Your Children.

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 5:25

Read Ephesians 4 - 5 and write down disciplines and instructions.

Parent's Role

Mom's Vital Role

Love the Lord.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

Deuteronomy 6:5-6

Love and Respect Your Husband.

However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Ephesians 5:33

Love Your Children.

She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Proverbs 31:27

Read Proverbs 31:10-31 and write down characteristics of a godly wife and mother.

Parent's Role

A Note For Single Parents: Take Courage!

Pass on Your Faith.

I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother, Lois and your mother, Eunice and now, I am sure dwells in you.

2 Timothy 1:5

Community Counts!

Commit to plug into an active JOURNEYgroup or other small group opportunities to foster community in your life in Christ.

A Final Note of Encouragement:

Father of the fatherless and Protector of the widows is God in His holy habitation.

Psalms 68:5

God's heart beats for children and single parents who are seeking to honor Him and lead a godly family!

Parent's Role

Parenting...more than just a phase!

- Every life stage is a temporary phase. Each is special and unique, so don't let it pass you by!
- It takes a village (5 to 1 ratio)!
- Practice intentional faith talks.
- Capture "God Moments".
- Celebrate Milestones!

Ages 0 - 1 Year Old

- Expect sleep deprivation.
- Life (and smells!) are overwhelming!
- Your baby NEEDS you.

936 weeks and counting until Graduation.

Ages 2 -3 Years Old

- Expect to be late...often!
- Pick your battles!
- Your child will insist that they can do it. They are learning new skills and the confidence to move on to the next phase...preschool!

884 weeks and counting until Graduation.

What To Expect

What to expect at Child Dedication:

- Family is invited and ENCOURAGED to attend this milestone celebration!
- There will be a Pastor / Leader contacting you to answer questions and confirm your attendance.
- The ceremony is short and sweet and involves children so noise is ok!
- Each family will receive a small gift and certificate commemorating this occasion.
- There will be a place designated to take photos with family and even your leader if you would like!

