



I WANT TO DEDICATE MY CHILD

Great! We are excited that you wish to dedicate your child to the Lord! We look forward to walking alongside you in your parenting journey!

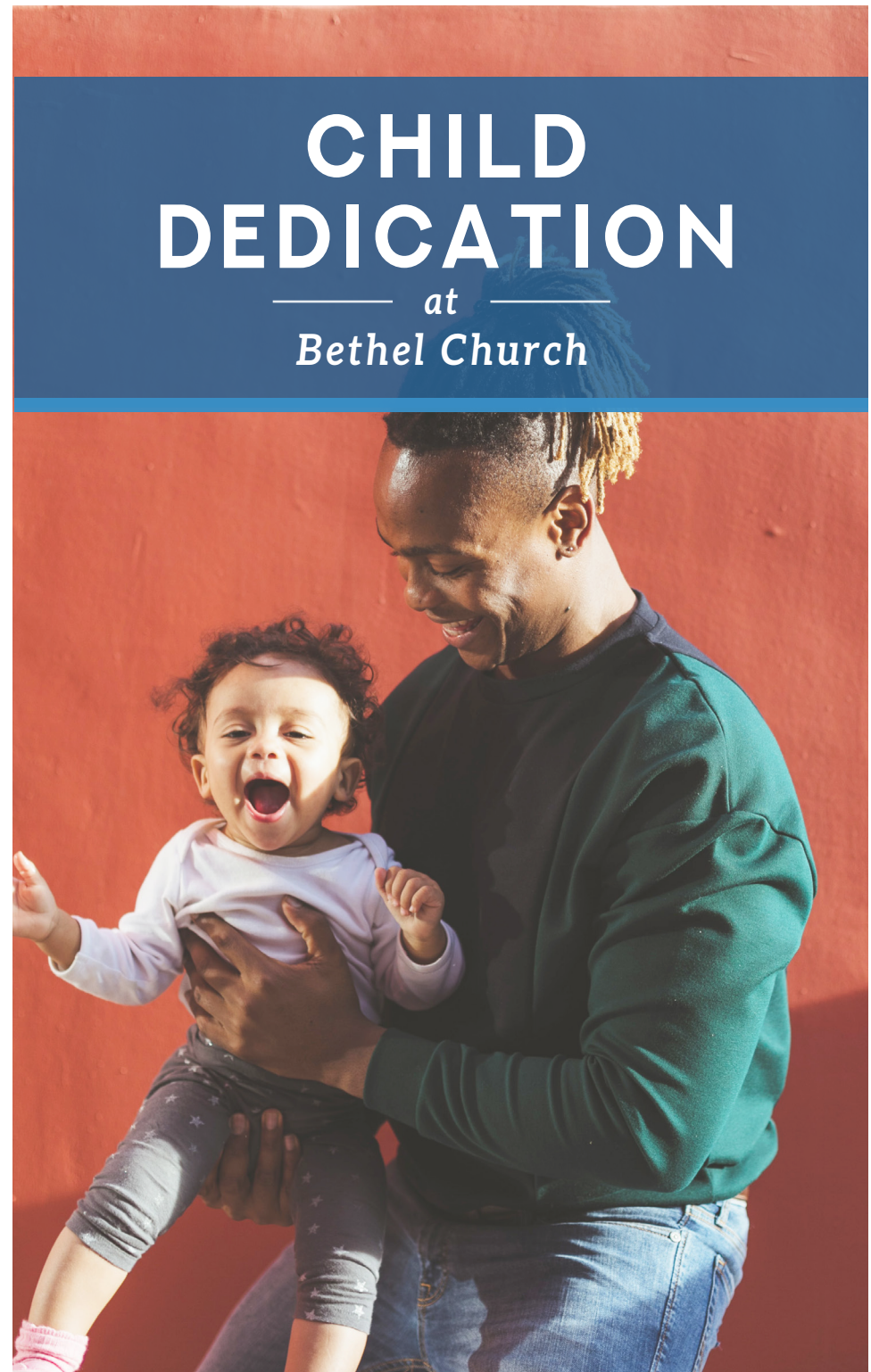
We offer Parent /Child Dedication twice a year: In May and November. For more information on your next steps:

- You'll need to attend our 30-minute Parent/Child Dedication class, which is offered the Sunday before dedication dates. It's a great way to get to know our staff, learn about dedication, and prepare for the ceremony.
- Visit our website at bethelfc.com/kids for future Child Dedication Dates, to register for the class or to view the Child Dedication Brochure and Information Packet.

If you have any questions or simply want to talk more about Child Dedication please contact our Bethel Kids' Office at 701.232.4476.



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WHAT IS PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION?

Parent/Child dedication is a commitment to raise your child in a Gospel-centered home, while taking the lead role in your child's discipleship. This dedication is not a statement of salvation for your child, but rather a statement of how you will raise your child.

While not a command of Scripture, parent/child dedication can be a beautiful symbol. It should be done with a community of believers who know you personally and can commit to walking with you in this commitment.

This is why we, at Bethel participate with you. As you acknowledge your responsibility to raise your child(ren) in a Gospel-centered home taking an active role in your child's discipleship, we as your church family, are making a similar commitment to you. We commit to come along side of you and help you in this discipleship journey.

WHY PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION?

The word "dedication" means "to consecrate." It is the act of setting apart people or things to serve God.



In the Old Testament, we see how Hannah prayed for a child and promised God that the child, Samuel, would be given to the Lord all the days of his life (1 Samuel 1:11, 28). In the New Testament, we see how Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple to "present" Him to the Lord (Luke 2:22). These parents took this act very seriously and were making a commitment by presenting their children to the Lord. Bringing a child before the Lord is not a secret formula for keeping them from ever experiencing harm or pain. Rather, it is a commitment that the parents will do their part in raising their child before the Lord.

Just as Moses called for wholehearted commitment, we as a church are calling you the parent(s) to a wholehearted commitment to . . .

... "love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

- Deuteronomy 5:6-7

