Child Dedication Service Information

This sheet answers common questions about participating in a child dedication service at Felida Bible Church. Our desire is that this service will be a meaningful way for you to express your desire for God's very best in the life of your child.

If you have additional questions that aren't answered here, don't hesitate to call or email the church office.

Why do we have child dedication services?

God wants us to raise our children to know and love him. This responsibility has deep biblical roots. When God gave the Israelites his laws, he said this to parents: "These commandments that I give 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." (Deut 6:6-7). And in the New Testament, we read, "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." (Eph 6:4).

A child dedication service is an opportunity for you to declare your commitment as parents to fulfill this important responsibility. It's also an opportunity for your church family to encourage you in your commitment. As you pledge to raise your children to follow Jesus Christ, we want to say, “We’re with you in this, and we commit ourselves to do what we can to help you succeed.”

What does a child dedication service consist of?

Typically, it is a short ceremony near the end of a regular Sunday worship service. Please have each child you are planning to dedicate with you when the service begins in the main worship auditorium (upstairs).

The pastor who is conducting the service will usually say some initial remarks about the service and then invite all participants to come forward. At that time, he will ask one of the parents to introduce each family member participating. At this point, a digital photo of each child being dedicated will be shown on the video screen, if available.

The pastor will then ask you to affirm the following words of commitment. You needn't memorize them but look them over to be sure you understand and agree with them.

1. Do you gratefully acknowledge that your child is a gift from God (“we do”).
2. Do you dedicate our child to the Lord who gave them to you (“we do”).
3. Do you pledge, with the help of God, to raise your child in the fear and admonition of the Lord? (“We do”)

You will then be led in the following prayer:

> *"Lord Jesus Christ, we commit (child's name) to you now trusting in your loving care. We surrender any other claim on his or her life with the prayer that they will respond to the work of your Holy Spirit and trust you as their savior. Amen"*

The pastor will then ask those who consider Felida to be their church family to declare the following words of commitment:

> *"We, your brothers and sisters in Christ believe that God has placed you in our family to accomplish his good purposes. We affirm your desire to be godly parents, and we commit ourselves to your success. We ask God to use us to demonstrate his love and truth to you and your children."*

The pastor will then pray for each of the families and dismiss them back to their seats.

May God bless you and your family as you follow Jesus!