



Parent|Child

D E D I C A T I O N

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your interest in our upcoming Parent/Child Dedication. At Brookwood, we believe that the single most important element in a child's spiritual development is the influence and example of their parents. As a church and children's ministry, we are excited to partner with you in this journey but ultimately you must teach your child what it means to follow Jesus. Because we believe this, we offer opportunities for you to get started (or re-started) right by dedicating your child to God and accepting the responsibility to nurture, teach and care for your child in a Christian home.

Child dedication is not a baptism and has nothing to do with the child's spiritual state. It has everything to do with the parents' commitment before God. Child dedication doesn't insure salvation or forgiveness of sin. These are the result of relationship with Jesus, a relationship that begins with a personal decision to follow Jesus. While you can guide your children and introduce them to Jesus you cannot make this decision for them. Children must choose to follow Jesus on their own when they are old enough to understand what that means. The Parent/Child dedication is a time when we gather with family and friends before God and promise to raise our children in a way that honors God and helps them come to know Jesus.

We want this to be a meaningful experience for your family, so we've created several opportunities that will help you capture the significance of your child's dedication. These opportunities are outlined in this booklet and include exercises such as choosing a life verse and writing a letter to your child. I realize at first glance these may seem a little daunting, but our goal is not to create extra work. Over the years, we have found that doing these things really does add a great deal to the experience. The many parents who have participated in Parent/Child dedications would tell you it's definitely worth the effort. We've created this booklet as a keepsake for you, but please remember that we need a copy as well. Please try to email the information to us prior to the class so we can prepare for the dedication service.

We're so excited to be a part of this special occasion with you. If you have any questions regarding the Parent/Child Dedication please don't hesitate to contact us.

God Bless,



Ned Gable
Pastor to Children and Families



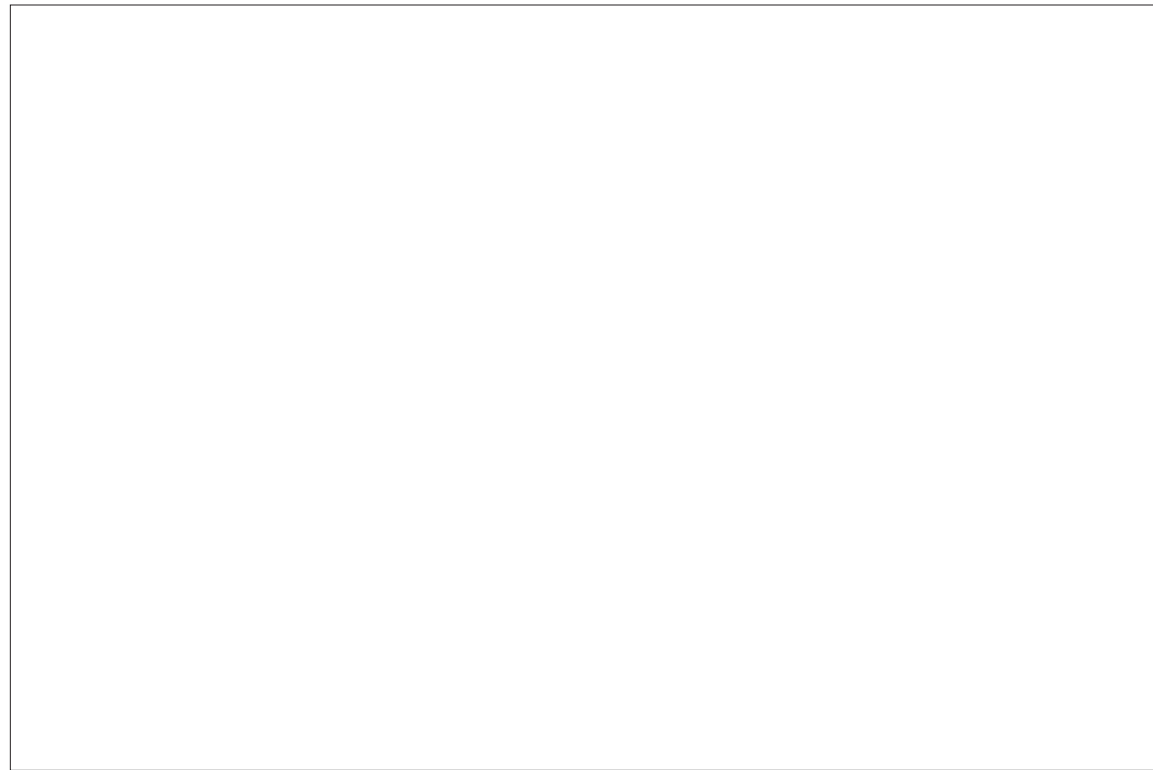
Baby Steps

TOWARD DEDICATION DAY

1. Select a few photos of your child for Dedication Day.
2. Select a few photos of your family with your child who will be dedicated.
3. Select a Life Verse for your child.
4. Select Dedication Sponsors.
5. Write a Dedication Letter to your child.
6. Invite family and friends for the ceremony on _____ ceremony date .

Step 1

YOUR CHILD'S PHOTO



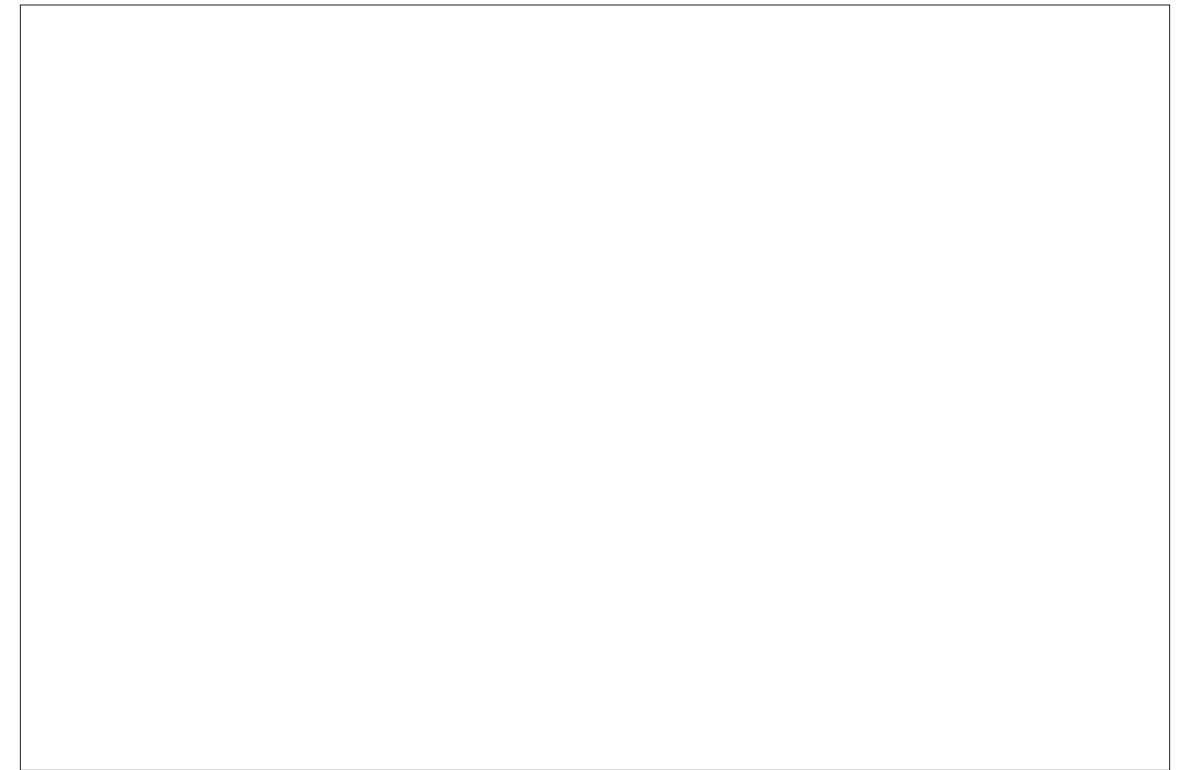
Child's Name _____

Birthdate _____

This photo will be used for the Dedication Ceremony, you may email this photo to dedication@brookwoodchurch.org.

Step 2

YOUR FAMILY PHOTO



Parents' Names _____

Siblings' Names _____

This photo will be used for the Dedication Ceremony, you may email this photo to dedication@brookwoodchurch.org.

Step 3

CHOOSE A LIFE VERSE

LIFE VERSE SELECTED FOR:

Select a verse for your child's dedication that holds your hope, promise, and prayer for your child. Listed below are some possible choices, however, you may select any verse that choose.

Child's Name _____

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Jeremiah 29:11 | Psalm 37:3-5 |
| 2 Timothy 2:15 | Isaiah 43:1-3 |
| Matthew 6:33 | Micah 6:8 |
| Deuteronomy 6:5-9 | Proverbs 3:5-6 |
| 1 Chronicles 28:20 | Philippians 4:6 |
| Matthew 5:16 | Philippians 4:8 |
| 1 Corinthians 13:4 - 7 | Philippians 4:13 |
| Numbers 6:24-26 | 1 Corinthians 15:58 |

“ _____

_____”

If you need additional help in selecting a verse, please feel free to contact Patti Jo Mackey at 688-8249.

The Life Verse will be used for the Dedication ceremony, you may email it to dedication@brookwoodchurch.org.

Step 4

CHOOSE YOUR DEDICATION SPONSOR

A dedication sponsor should be someone you are close to that will assist you in spiritual guidance and help you with spiritual accountability for raising up this child in Christ. The dedication sponsor will be a support role in the spiritual journey of the child, assuring that they know of God's love and help to model a Christian lifestyle.

Family, friends, small group leaders are all people you can look to for providing this role. Choose a dedication sponsor that you feel comfortable with for the ceremony, and for all the years you will help your child grow in Christ.

At the Dedication Ceremony, the Dedication Sponsor will stand up with your family during your child's actual dedication moment. The Dedication Sponsor most generally will read the Bible verse you have selected as a life verse for your child, if that is comfortable for your situation. If not, the attending pastor will read it for you. This is your day, so if your Dedication Sponsor is not comfortable, or unavailable, that is perfectly fine too. They have a life long role, and the Dedication ceremony is only the beginning.

If you need additional help in selecting a Dedication Sponsor, please feel free to contact Patti Jo Mackey at 688.8249.

OUR DEDICATION SPONSOR(S):

Name(s) _____

Relationship _____

Email _____

Address _____

Why we Love them: _____

The Sponsors' names will be used for the Dedication Ceremony, you may email it to dedication@brookwoodchurch.org.



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