



Dear Parents in Christ:

Congratulations on your decision to dedicate your child to the Lord. In the dedication ceremony, you are making a public commitment to raise your child according to the Word of God. We at Save The Nations are pleased to be a part of this special time for your family.

We are so excited for you and your family as God has blessed you with the gift of a precious life. As you look forward to this time of baby dedications, know we will join you in prayer, asking God to bless your public declaration of devotion to Him. We want you to fully understand the heart behind the tradition before entering into a ceremony of such weighty implication.

Please take the time to completely fill out the enclosed information form. This form will register you for the first available baby dedication. Baby dedications are scheduled once a month as necessary, during all our weekend services. You may return your application via regular mail or hand it to an usher in an envelope written to: ATTN: Executive Pastor. Upon receipt of your application, you will receive a confirmation phone call with the available services to participate in the Baby Dedication.

If you have more questions, please feel free to email one of the pastors. Once again, congratulations and may God continue to richly bless you and your family.

Living the DREAM,

In Christ,
Pastoral Team of Save The Nations

Baby Dedication

Who should be dedicated?

Baby dedications are for newborn babies through the toddler years. It does not take the place of a "baby baptism." Although many churches baptize infants, the Bible clearly indicates that "baptism" can only be done when one is old enough to make a personal decision for Jesus as his or her Lord and Savior. Baby dedications are for children who are not yet able to make that personal decision. Dedicating a baby does not bring protection to or sanctify a child. The child is separated, sanctified and protected according to the parents' relationship with God and their faith in His promises.

What does dedication include?

Parents make a promise to God, in front of the Body of Christ, that they will raise their child according to the Word of God. Pastor, along with the congregation, agree in prayer for the parents and the child. As a church, we applaud their decision to raise the child in the ways of the Lord. The child will receive a Certificate of Dedication.

"For the Christian wife brings holiness to her marriage, and the Christian husband brings holiness to his marriage. Otherwise, your children would not have a godly influence, but now they are set apart for Him." 1 Corinthians 7:14

Why do we dedicate children?

The essence of this practice is found in 1 Samuel chapters 1 and 2, where we see Hannah, who had a deep personal relationship with God, pray and ask that she be given a child on the condition that she would then give the child back to the Lord.

When Jesus was born, several ceremonies took place soon after His birth (as in all Jewish families): a) circumcision, b) presentation to the Lord, c) purification of the mother (Luke 2:21-38).

What are the requirements of the parents?

Children learn by example, not by what we tell them. Parents who do not have a personal relationship with God cannot teach a child the proper way to live a Christian life. **This means that at least one of the child's parents must be born again, and he or she makes the promise to God that the child will be brought up according to God's Word.**

As we see in 1 Corinthians 7:14, the blessings that flow to believers do not stop with them but extend to others. God regards marriage as set apart for His use by the presence of one Christian spouse. The other spouse does not receive salvation automatically but is blessed by this relationship. The child of such a marriage has a Godly influence and is set apart (because of God's blessing on the family unit), until the child is old enough to make his or her own decision for Christ.

"Teach your children to choose the right path, and when they are older, they will remain upon it." Proverbs 22:6

We do not dedicate babies whose parents are not married and live together. The Scriptures are clear as to the sexual union being exclusively reserved for the institution of marriage. (However, single parents who have sinned by having sexual relationships outside of marriage, and have repented, should contact our Pastoral staff at the church office.) These requests will be considered on an individual basis.

When are baby dedications held at Save The Nations?

If you have additional questions regarding baby dedications, please contact our Pastoral staff via email. If you meet the criteria set forth above, (1) you are born again and practicing a lifestyle that will show Jesus to your child, and (2) you will promise to instruct the child according to the teachings of the Word of God, please complete the application attached and return it to an usher in a self-addressed envelope ATTN: Executive Pastor or mail it.

Is there a fee? There is no fee to dedicate your child, however, we do ask that you make a donation of any amount to the church to continue to help us build the Kingdom. Suggested donation: \$50

We will contact you during the week prior to the scheduled dedication date to confirm that your child or children will be dedicated. In order for your child to be dedicated, you must first receive confirmation from the church office.

Baby Dedication Application

Fill out this application as completely as possible. If you can't remember certain things that is fine, just try your best. We consider it an honor that you'd like us to dedicate your child to the Lord.

Father's name: _____

When did you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?***

Mother's name: _____

When did you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?***

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Are parents married? _____ Yes _____ No

How long have you attended STN? _____

Day phone: (____) _____ - _____ Evening phone: (____) _____ - _____

Cell phone: (____) _____ - _____ Other phone: (____) _____ - _____

Please provide the following information for use in preparing the Certificate of Dedication:

Child's full name:

Hospital and city/state where child was born:

Child's date of birth: ____/____/____

Who will the witnesses be?

*** If you do not understand what it means to be "born again," or if you would like to enter into a personal relationship with God, please contact our Pastoral staff.

Thank you. You will hear from a member of the pastoral team shortly.