

Child Information & Service Details

For the Dedication Certificate

Name of Child being dedicated: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Father's Name _____

The following will help us get the details correct and help make this special for you & your family.

Do you want seats reserved for your family? If so, please tell us how many. _____

Do you want anyone else to be on stage for the dedication part in addition to mom, dad, child? If so, please list name and relation. _____

Grandparents' Names: _____

Great Grandparents Names: _____

Photo/Live Stream Release Form for Minors

Newport Assembly of God will be conducting a Child Dedication Service on Sunday, March 23, 2025. I understand that this service goes live online and will be archived on the website.

My signature below gives permission and consent for my child, _____, photo and/or live stream permission as indicated below.

Photo Permission

_____ Yes, photos or videos of my child may be shared on Newport's official social media platforms, website & printed materials.

_____ No, photos or videos of my child may NOT be shared on Newport's official social media platforms, website or printed materials.

Live Stream Permission

_____ Yes, I understand this service will be live-streamed and archived on the website.

_____ No, I do not want this part of the service to be live-streamed.

Name of Parent or Guardian (*Please Print*)

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Child Dedication Information Form

This takes place of a formal class.

Congratulations! You are on a journey. A parental journey filled with joy, happiness, pain, sorrow and failure. We commend you for taking the step to dedicate your child to God and to strive to lead your child the way God desires.

Being a parent is one of the most challenging but most rewarding opportunities we have. As a Christ follower it's not about telling our children how to love and have a relationship with God, it is about showing them how to have a genuine relationship with Jesus.

Newport Assembly is committed to helping you with this. We want to walk alongside you as you parent, love, and set an example for your child. We are here as a resource and to pray for you.

We understand that you may not attend Newport Assembly and if that is the case, we pray you find or have found a good church family to partner with. We are honored to share in this special moment with you and dedicate your child to Christ.

Your child is a gift from God!

A Child Dedication service has a few important aspects to it.

1. It is the recognition that the child you hold is not yours, but God's. God is the author of life. Your child is not an accident, mistake or even the outcome of your choice. Your child is a miracle of God's creative power.

The Psalmist declared, *"For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well."*
Psalm 139:13-14

Paul wrote to the Ephesians, *"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."* Another version says, "we are God's masterpiece"!

This child, with all of its uniqueness and potential, is a gift God has given you. Your child is a gift God has entrusted to you to raise and train up.

In I Samuel 1, a woman named Hannah yearned for a child. Her greatest desire was to be a mother. Yet, she experienced disappointment after disappointment, and remained childless. She continually cried out to God and, in time, God gave her the gift of a son. When Samuel was born, Hannah said, "For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted my petition which I asked of Him. Therefore I also have given him to the Lord; as long as he lives he shall be given to the Lord." Understanding that the child born to Hannah and her husband, Elkanah, was a gift from God, Hannah stood before God and offered praise and thanks for His gift in their lives.

2. It is a celebration of the gift you have received from God. The church is the best place to celebrate the arrival of babies because it is a gathering place for worship. We want to join you in gratitude and joy as we celebrate God's gift placed in your life. We want to embrace you and the challenge that lies ahead, praying for you and encouraging you as you look forward to all God will do through the life of your child.

Evaluation Question: Have you "given" your child to God in your personal prayer life?

A Commitment to God's Plan

A child dedication is not just about the baby or child. It is about the entire family. Standing in a church and celebrating the gift of your child is the first step, but following Christ and seeking His wisdom in the rearing of your child is the journey.

A baby dedication is a parent/child dedication. A dedication service is as much for the parent as for the child. It's really about the parent's dedication to God to raise their child in the ways of the Lord.

God has given you a gift! But this gift is also a responsibility and a challenge, encouraging your dependence upon Him day by day.

In God's wisdom and love, He provides a path. In the book of Deuteronomy 6:4-9, you are given your "job description" as a parent:

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on 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. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

- You are to love God and pursue your relationship with Him on a daily basis.
- You are to honor God by obeying His Word in your life.
- You are to teach your child to love and obey God.
- You are to provide spiritual and moral training for your child according to God's Word.

In this Dedication Service you will be

- Acknowledging your need for God's wisdom, guidance and strength in parenting.
- Affirming the commitment of your heart to follow Christ and obey His Word.
- Surrendering yourself to honor God by being a faithful steward of the gift He has entrusted to you.
- Creating a moment to Recognize and embrace the spiritual responsibility of answering to God for the child He has given you.

Evaluation Questions

1. What are specific areas in your life that you would like to improve upon to better model for your child what a relationship with Jesus looks like?
2. What are 2 things that you can do to encourage your child to have a relationship with Jesus?

Church Commitment

God has not left you without instructions for parenting, and He has not left you to do this task alone. When our church comes together for a child dedication, we are not simply celebrating the gift of a child and the commitment of a parent. We are embracing our responsibility as a church to support families by teaching God's Word, serving one another in love, training up disciples of Jesus, and pointing others to Christ. We understand the importance of maintaining an atmosphere that inspires faith, challenges growth and provides opportunities to serve.

Believing we have been charged with sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the next generation, we enthusiastically affirm you and your child, praying for God to work through us together to make an eternal difference in the life of your child.

Our commitment to children and youth ministries provides opportunities for spiritual and emotional growth. Through biblical preaching, small groups and a variety of family-focused events, we are also creating an atmosphere of spiritual growth in your life as a parent. We want to encourage your journey with your child, and have given much attention to developing ministries for this purpose.

While no church is perfect in all it provides for parents and children, the commitment of our community is to do all we can for Christ today and for the generations to come.

Evaluation Questions

1. Why is it important for you and your child to be connected to a church?
2. Have you considered the church as a partner in raising your child? Why or why not?

How Can I Be a Godly P-A-R-E-N-T?

PRESENT your child to God as Hannah and Elkanah did. Asking Him to give you wisdom, grace, and faith to see your child's value through His eyes and not just your own. This is not something you do just on child dedication day, but every day as you behold the wonder of your child's growth and development.

ACKNOWLEDGE your inadequacy to be what God requires apart from a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. The first step to becoming the parent your child needs is to acknowledge your need for a relationship with God and to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord.

Today, we read and hear about dysfunctional families. Maybe you have struggled to overcome family failure and injury in your own life. The truth of the matter is we are all dysfunctional because of a universal problem called sin. The Bible is clear about this: *"...for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God."* Romans 3:23

You may think you have to be a spiritual giant to be a parent. This is far from true! In fact, in order to be the best parent you can be, you must first acknowledge that you are a sinner who needs a Savior. If you have experienced forgiveness and received the gift of new life in Christ, you have the capacity to lead, love, and live. Your life will become a source of spiritual blessing as you receive Christ and live for His purpose, allowing Him to shape your family and your future!

RESOLVE to pursue a daily walk with Christ. Spiritual activities and disciplines - such as prayer, worship, and Bible reading - can all play a part in your daily "routine" as you invest in the life of your child. Developing an atmosphere of love, security, and growth all flow from your personal relationship with God. Call upon the Lord day by day and prove His strength in your life.

ELEVATE God's Word in your life and home. The Bible is filled with specific instructions and guidance for parents. It challenges us to love and honor each other, to affirm and value our children, and to discipline and train them in the fear and love of the Lord. Scripture presents principles and values for your safety and the welfare of your child.

NUTURE faith in your children. Let your home be filled with love, laughter, prayer, and song. Tell your children that God loves them and has a plan for their lives. Let Jesus' name be heard often in your home. Read great stories of the Bible. Make prayer a practice at mealtime, bedtime, and other times each day. Pray daily for the salvation of your children at an early age and for their lives to be lived for Christ.

TAKE your child to church and let them grow up worshipping with you and seeing you serve Christ. God gives parents the support of a church community to share the seasons of life together. Too many neglect involvement in the church. A vibrant church can make all the difference in your walk with Christ, the strength of your family life, and the reality of a child's faith.

A dedication service is a time of renewed obedience to God. As you prepare for this service, use the above evaluation questions to help you examine your life. Ask the Lord to reveal areas of needed adjustment. Then, commit to walk in obedience to His Word day by day.

You are the greatest spiritual influence in your child's life. Your child needs to see and understand your submission to God and His Word.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns. See you on Dedication Day!