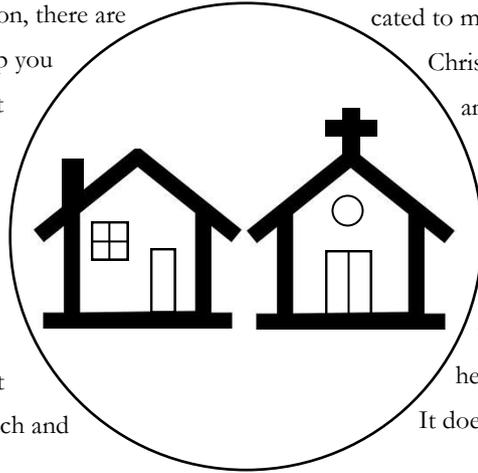


Are you ready to make this commitment?

Beginning with the end in mind.

As you prepare for this dedication, there are several questions which will help you in considering how you can best commit and dedicate yourselves to be the parents God desires you to be.



First, Baby Dedication is an act of faith in God. It is a covenant with God and His church to teach and nurture your child. So, the first question to ask is, “Am I a Christian?” To dedicate your child to God, you must first be dedicated to Him and possess a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The next question is, “Are we serious about this dedication?” You should ask yourselves if you truly want to see your child serve God. If not, it’s better not to make such an oath before God.

The third question is, “Are we willing to oversee our child’s spiritual development?” That is God’s call on your life as a parent, and no one has more influence over a child’s spiritual development than a parent, for good or for bad. So, you must be dedi-

cated to modeling a growing relationship with Christ, living a holy life, and worshiping and ministering through involvement in a church family. It means giving your child opportunities and encouragement to grow in knowledge and in faith in God and to become the person God intends for him or her to be.

As we make this commitment together, we whole-heartedly recognize that none of us are perfect. Parents and church leaders alike need God’s help. So, we commit to seek God’s help and His will together so that we may all do our part in loving and instructing your child in His ways.

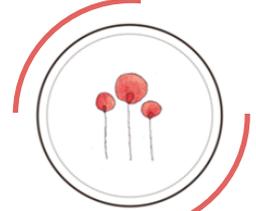
It does not mean, however, that you will or you must do it perfectly, because you will not. Nor will our church or its leaders be a perfect partner. As we make this commitment together, we recognize whole-heartedly that we need God’s help. We need His grace.

If you are ready, please contact Blake Hooks, Minister to Children using the contact information below.



First Baptist Church
200 N. Limestone Street
Gaffney, SC 29340
Phone: 864.489.6064
E-mail: blake@fbcgaffney.org
Web: fbcgaffney.org
Facebook: FBC Kids Gaffney

BABY DEDICATION



FBC Kids

**The Children’s Ministry of First Baptist Church
Gaffney, South Carolina**

Congratulations!

First Baptist Church rejoices with you in the birth of your child! We are excited and thankful that God has blessed your family with such a wonderful gift. Raising children is such an awe-



Baby Dedication is about celebration and thanksgiving, and dedication and commitment.

some privilege and responsibility.

Throughout the Bible, God commands parents to love God with all their heart, soul, mind and

strength, and by doing so, set an example from which their children can learn to love and follow God, too. While the duty of teaching children belongs to parents, FBC wants to be a trusted partner in your journey ahead. At times, we will be a coach and at other times a cheerleader. As you grow together as a family, we will grow together as a faith family exploring how best to teach your child about God.

This brochure explains how our Baby Dedication process can help you begin your journey wisely in dedicating yourself and your child to God.

What is Baby Dedication?

Baby Dedication is both an event and a process that focuses on celebration and commitment.

Together we celebrate your new child and thank God for His wonderful gift. Together we commit ourselves to God to teach and nurture your child in faith. The commitment is ours as your church and it is yours as parents, but it is not your child's. Your son or daughter will have that opportunity to commit himself or herself as he or she grows older and is able to personalize faith in Jesus. While we look forward to that day, we recognize that there is much instruction, nurture, prayer, and love to give and life to be lived before your child is able to make that decision for Jesus.

How does it work?

The process begins by contacting the Minister to Children or the Pastor about your interest in Baby Dedication. At that point, the Minister to Children will schedule a time to meet with you to discuss preparations that must be made by the church and by the parents for a Sunday dedication and celebration. Parents will receive brief but important "homework" to do before the dedication which will deepen the significance of dedication Sunday.

"It takes wisdom to have a good family, and it takes understanding to make it strong."

Proverbs 24:3

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and strength.

These commands that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children."

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

Why have Baby Dedication?

The Bible says in Mark 10:16 that parents brought their children to Jesus to be blessed by him laying his hands on the child and offering a spoken word of blessing. Even long before this, there is a history of godly parents presenting their children to God, asking for His blessing. Likewise, parents today present their children to God in the presence of His people to ask for God's blessing as well as to commit themselves, in partnership with the church, to love and nurture their children in Christian faith.