

WHAT IS CHILD DEDICATION?

Child dedication is an act of faith by which a parent or parents offer their children up to God for His purposes and declare their intention to raise their child or children for His glory and their joy.

Child dedication is a formal way that we express our trust and hope in the Lord to parent our children in a way that brings honor and glory to God. We dedicate our children in the presence of God’s people to show that we need each other in this holy endeavor. Child dedication is how we say before God and His people, “we will not drift through life, but we will be intentional. We will not raise our children to be neutral, but to engage with the world God has created. We will commit ourselves wholly to the Lord and teach our children the gospel, which is great joy for all peoples.”

DO I NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF GOLDEN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH?

Answer: Yes. Since child dedications involve a commitment from both the families and the people of God, it is important that the families are members of Golden Hills Community Church in order to clearly indicate the mutual commitment child dedication requires. Child dedication reflects the beautiful partnership between families and the people of God of Golden Hills Community Church to raise children in the Lord. Therefore, if you are not yet a member, we encourage you to consider making Golden Hills Community Church your home church through covenant membership in order to foster this mutual partnership.

CAN I PARTICIPATE IF I AM A SINGLE PARENT OR IF MY SPOUSE IS NOT A BELIEVER?

Answer: Yes. We acknowledge that it takes extra effort for a single believing parent to faithfully raise their child in the grace and knowledge of the Lord, so we are committed to supporting our single parents through mutual partnership in this holy endeavor. If the unbelieving parent is still involved in the child’s life, we do encourage the believing parent to discuss child dedication with them to solicit their support even though it is not appropriate for them to participate.

IS THERE AN AGE LIMIT FOR DEDICATING MY CHILD?

Answer: Yes. We recommend that only children under three years of age participate in child dedication. Since child dedications involve the faithful obedience and commitment of parents, it is best for children who cannot yet make or communicate their faith. If your child is beginning to ask questions about Jesus, we would love to come alongside of you to help you lead your child to faith in Jesus.

WHAT DO I DO IF I RECENTLY BECAME A MEMBER BUT MY CHILD (OR CHILDREN) IS OLDER THAN THE AGE LIMIT?

Answer: Membership at Golden Hills Community Church is considered covenant membership. What this means is that each member makes a promise to one another in accordance with the published “Church Covenant.” By becoming a covenant member of Golden Hills Community Church, you are committing to uphold what we as a church have stipulated in our shared covenant. One such stipulation reads, “We strive to maintain family and private devotions, to teach the Bible to our children” (§3). The intent of this stipulation is to covenant with one another that we will strive to raise our children in the Lord. So, if you have a child that exceeds the age limit for child dedication and you are a member of Golden Hills Community Church, then you are still committing to the church that you intend to raise your children in the grace and knowledge of the Lord through your covenant membership. And by being welcomed into covenant membership by the church, you are receiving the church’s support to help in that holy endeavor.

AFTER READING THESE FAQ’S, PLEASE COMPLETE THE
CHILD DEDICATION FORM

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT US AT:
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