

What is Child Dedication?

It's when parents commit, before both God and man, to raise their child in the ways of the Lord. It's a public statement of intent, basically calling on the church to witness and even assist in your commitment to parent your children based on the teachings of Jesus through His Word. It's not commanded, so it's a lot different than baptism. It doesn't mean your child will go to heaven or sleep through the night or be able to do algebra by age three. It's more for the parents than the child, actually.

It is modeled in Scripture, though. We see it in the book of **1 Samuel** and in the book of **Luke**. Samuel's mother dedicates him to God's service as a baby; Joseph & Mary take Jesus to the Temple when He is a baby as well.

If you commit to raising your child in a God-centered, Jesus-worshiping, Spirit-lead home... You should dedicate your children at Overlake!

If you have further questions about what Child Dedication is, please <u>email</u> Overlake's Children's Pastor, Phil Chenery.

"Dedication Class" is Required First

In order to have your child dedicated at Overlake, you must attend a short meeting, hosted by Pastor Phil Chenery. We are hosting this mandatory class for three reasons: 1) So you get to know the other parents of children at OCC, 2) So we're on the same page theologically concerning dedications, and 3) So we celebrate and have discussions about parenting the children God has entrusted to us.

The class is typically held one or two Sundays prior to the dedication, at 11am, in Room Green 7 (E133). This classroom is across from KidTown Station. You can locate it on the map in the Station or ask any friendly face for help in getting there.