



This is very special occasion in the life of this family. By virtue of this act they are making a commitment to our Lord to fulfill the responsibility of raising this child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

The primary place of influence in his life will be the home. But there will be other places of influence as well, two of the major ones being the homes of the grandparents and this church. This moment is primarily for < > and < > and their family, but also for all of us who take seriously the nurturing of this little one. We are partners together.

In dedicating < > to the Lord, we confess that God is at work even in this young one and that He will continue to have influence in <his/her> life in the years ahead. < > and < > dedicate < > publically to the Lord this morning. I say publically because for < > and < >, < > was dedicated to the Lord long before this moment. What a joy that is for me. That makes this moment, this public moment before the Lord and before His people, all the more special.

Let me address the family and then the congregation:

Address to the Family

Christian parents, in presenting your child to the Lord, you enter into a solemn relationship with God. Throughout the ages godly parents have presented their children to God in dedication. You follow a noble heritage.

Believing that this child is a gift from God, and that He shall hold you accountable for < >, do you now declare that it is your purpose to dedicate < > to the Lord and to His service? Will you pray with < > and for <him/her>; instruct <him/her> faithfully in the truths of the Christian faith; teach < > to read the Word of God, to pray, and to lead a holy life; take <him/her> faithfully to the church to attend its services; and do all that in you lies to bring <him/her> to the knowledge of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord?

The response – "We will."

Address to the Congregation

Being aware of the nature of the church as the body of Christ and our responsibility for one another, will you support this family by praying for them, providing opportunities for edification and service for them and by living in such a way that they are not disappointed by your lives and testimony?

Will you refrain from criticizing these parents if they see fit to raise their children differently than you would? Will you offer guidance when needed and consistent concern for their good?

Will you love this child, be patient with <him/her> and provide all that the church can to promote <his/her> spiritual growth?

If you will, answer "We will."

We want to dedicate < > to the Lord.

The Dedication

< >, we now dedicate you to God in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May your young life be nurtured and matured under the gracious influence of the Holy Spirit. May God early call you into His Kingdom and into His service, using you to advance His glory and hasten the coming of our Lord.

Prayer: protection, deliverance from temptation, an early acceptance of Christ as Savior and Lord, and a place of service in the will of God.