Family Dedication

Dear Parents,

Our next Family Dedication will take place in the sanctuary during the service on **Sunday March 8, 2020**.

Parenting Classes

In preparation, we are asking all parents who would like to be involved in this service to attend a three-week course on parenting. This course will be held on the three Sundays prior to the dedication service – details are listed below:

Sunday, February 9, 23 & March 1 • 9:15 – 10:15 AM • W201

- **Class 1** - How to Raise Positive Kids in a Negative World
  - Building Relationships that Bond
- **Class 2** - God's Process for Teaching Obedience
  - How to Discipline Your Child Effectively
- **Class 3** - Words that Disciple
  - Five Smooth Stones for Parenting

Picture Day

Sunday, February 23 • 8:15 – 9:15 AM • Founders Hall

We will be taking a photo of your child before the second parenting class, on February 23. More details will be provided once the classes begin.

If you would like to take part in the dedication service, please complete the information form and return it to The Peoples Church by **Sunday, February 9**.

The Peoples Church
374 Sheppard Avenue East
Toronto, ON
M2N 3B6

We look forward to meeting you and getting to know you!

May God's love abound towards you.

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Together in God's global mission

What is Family Dedication?

Dedication is… a promise, by **YOU,** to God, before other church family members, to raise your child in a Christian atmosphere where you, as a parent or parents, expose your child to God: his teachings, his character and his ways, including his plan of salvation through Jesus Christ. **It is not baptism or christening of infants**.

Dedication is… the admission that "as we rear (our children), we are to keep in mind that what we must want for their lives is not our will, but God's will. We must not try to conform them to our image; we must yield ourselves to God praying that he will lead and direct our children making them what he wants them to be. His desire is to transform them by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit into the likeness of Jesus Christ". (Clarence Sexton 'What does it Mean to Give Your Child to God?' Baptist Vision Publications: Powell, 1999, p.7.)

When you bring your child forward in dedication, we are not contributing in any way to his/her salvation.

- As our Statement of Faith expresses, "salvation is a free gift by God's grace through faith without works of any kind (Ephesians 2:8-9), that all who accept the Lord Jesus Christ by faith are born again by the Holy Spirit and become the children of God (John 1:12)."

- A person – in this case, your child, will only know salvation through *his/her own* belief and confession. As Romans 10:9-10 explains, "For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved".

You will also be joining us in praying for your child; that he/she will accept the Lord Jesus Christ by faith and be born again by the Holy Spirit when he/she comes to a responsible understanding of Christ and the gospel message.

This is a time to celebrate the wonderful gift that God has given you and to celebrate your dependence on him in raising your child. Family and friends will enjoy supporting you in making these commitments and in praying for your child. So, be sure to invite those who have a loving interest in the life of your child.

Registration Form

Sunday, March 8, 2020
Family Dedication

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY

Information of child(ren) being dedicated:

Child 1

Name: _____

Birth Date: _____ ☐ **Male** ☐ **Female**

Child 2

Name: _____

Birth Date: _____ ☐ **Male** ☐ **Female**

Child 3

Name: _____

Birth Date: _____ ☐ **Male** ☐ **Female**

Parent Information:

Name of Mother: _____

Name of Father: _____

Address: _____

_____

E-mail: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Work Phone: _____

Have you been to previous parenting classes for your child(ren)? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Name of child(ren) previously dedicated: _____

Date of previous dedication: _____

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Spiritual Journey

Please give us a brief outline of the spiritual journey of each parent and include any personal or vocational details that would help with introducing you to our congregation. (Maximum 50 words)

Please return pages 3-4 only.
Keep the other pages for your reference.

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