

DEDICATION OF CHILDREN

- I. Increase our believing in the importance of our children.
 - A. Our children will continue the work we have started.
 - B. Whole duty of man is to love God and keep His commandments. This "mind set" can start with the believing of the parents. Gives the parents an added purpose for children.
 - C. Many of us have become strong believers without much help from our parents, so more must be available with believing parents.
 - D. As we develop A, B and C above, dedication will not become a routine tradition.

- II. The believing of the parents of Samuel.
 - A. I Samuel 1:11--"dedication" of Samuel to God was in Hannah's heart before conception.
 - B. I Samuel 1:17 and 18--though prophet was "copped out," she believed his words.
 - C. I Samuel 1:19 and 20--she got results--this was not an empty prayer. Though prophet was "off," the Lord honored the believing of the parent.
 - D. I Samuel 1:23--The husband, Elkanah, was likeminded with Hannah, "only the Lord established his word."

- III. Raising Samuel in the Word.
 - A. I Samuel 2:1-11--Parents had the Word living richly. Words like these don't flow from the heart of someone who watches soap operas, etc.
 - B. Parents must have had confidence in the Word they taught Samuel to have still "lent" him to Eli with the corruption known to exist in Israel--I Samuel 2:22.
 - C. I Samuel 2:12-19--Samuel still stood though all this was going on. Could only have done so with the Word richly in his mind.
 - D. I Samuel 3:19 and 20--The believing of the parents of I Samuel 1:23 was fulfilled as the parents did their part.

- IV. Jesus Christ blessing the children.
 - A. Mark 10:13-16; Matthew 19:13-15; Luke 18:15-17.
 - B. It is part of the responsibility of a man of God to bless the children.

- V. The child is set apart by God because of the parents' believing and remains so until he or she is of the age of accountability.
I Corinthians 7:12-14.

- VI. Raising your child in the Word.
Proverbs 6:20 and 23 Proverbs 22:6 and 15 Proverbs 30:11
Proverbs 13:24 Proverbs 23:13, 14, 22
Proverbs 19:18 Proverbs 29:15 and 17

- VII. Conclusion.
 - A. The blessing of a man of God upon the child--I Samuel 1:17-19.
 - B. The parents have a responsibility to raise the child in the Word.
I Samuel 1:23; Ephesians 6:4.
 - C. The concern of the man of God for the child continues--

BABY DEDICATIONS: There will be Baby Dedications on Sunday afternoon, June 10, which is Pentecost Sunday. Any parents wishing to have their children dedicated should send the following information to Dorothy Yogi via interoffice mail:

Full name of child	Full name of father
Date of birth	Full name of mother
Place of birth	

Further details as to the exact time and place will be forthcoming.

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The dedication of a child is the public acknowledgement of the parents' commitment to give their son or daughter to God through Jesus Christ. The parents are saying they promise, to the best of their ability, to bring their child up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Ephesians 6:1-4.

The dedication is the child receiving the blessing of a man of God on his or her life.

The dedication services we conduct in The Way Ministry are simple yet dignified. The service should not be long, and can be done with the parents only or as part of a ministry meeting. It is common for dedications to take place at a Twig, Branch or Limb meeting.