

# **Baby/Child Dedication**

*November 3, 2019*

Mark 10:13-16

**Introduction** – By bringing their children for dedication, parents signify their faith in God. They, also, indicate their desire that their children come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, and to serve the Lord all of their lives. The act of dedication will not make this child a Christian, but is only a starting point from which to teach him of Christ. Jesus demonstrated His acceptance and love for the little children (Mark 10:14).

## **I. Three necessities that our children need to live with.**

1. Our love.
  - a. Love is more than a feeling; love is an action.
  - b. God showed that He loves us by His action of giving His only Son for us (John 3:16a).
2. Our time.
  - a. Parents only have a limited amount of time to be a positive influence in the lives of their children. Let's make the most of every opportunity (Ephesians 5:15-16 amp.).
3. Our discipline.
  - a. Will we be setting proper boundaries for our children? When those boundaries are broken, will we discipline them in love?
  - b. Discipline must not be done in anger or frustration, inconsistent, unreasonable, and excessive (Proverbs 3:11-12; 19:18).

## **II. Presenting the child back to God.**

1. Recognized your child is a precious gift from the Lord.
2. Classic examples:
  - a. Hannah bringing her son Samuel (I Sam. 1:27-28).
  - b. Mary and Joseph: (Luke 2:22).
  - c. Abraham surrendering his miracle child Isaac to the Lord (Genesis 22:1-13).

## **III. Giving your child to God is a:**

1. Confirmation of your love for God.
  - a. Children are prized possession...but never to take the place of God.
2. Clarification of ownership.
  - a. This child belongs to God, is a gift from God, on loan to you (Psalm 127:3-5).
3. Commitment to raise your child God's way.
  - a. Be a godly parent; pray and train this child; make your home a holy place.
4. Claiming of God's plan and promises for your child.
  - a. Isaac inherited God's blessings, protection and promises because his dad, Abraham, gave him back to God (Genesis 22:15-18; Isaiah 54:13).