

NCR Children's Ministry Mission

The Neighborhood Church Children's Ministry Mission is to partner with parents to guide children into a growing relationship with Christ.

NCR Child Dedications

Child Dedication at Neighborhood Church of Redding is a joyful recognition that every child is a gift from God. Parents have a responsibility to develop that gift – to mold and shape, to shepherd and nurture this precious life. Dedication is an opportunity for you to publicly commit yourselves before God, family and friends to raising your child in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

A child dedication ceremony is something that is done for both the parents and the child. It is a public acknowledgment that:

Children belong to the Lord and parents need His help.

Psalm 127:3 states "Behold, children are a legacy from the Lord; the fruit of the womb is His reward" A child is a God-given trust. Parents dedicating their children are committing to uphold that trust.

Parents will devote themselves to raising their children in accordance with the Bible.

Throughout God's Word, we are given instructions regarding the sacred relationship between parents and their offspring. Psalm 78 reads: "O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth... We will not hide the words of God from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, of His power, and the wonders He has done... so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children." God wants his marvelous deeds and character proclaimed from one generation to the next.

Parents will be open to the support and prayer of others for their children and for themselves.

The people of NCR are committed to providing a loving, biblical community that supports and prays for your family. Colossians 3:16 states "And above all these, put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom..."

The Parents' Commitment

Parents testify that:

- You have personally received Jesus Christ as your Savior and that Jesus is Lord of your life.
- Jesus will be at the center of your home—that the Bible will be honored as the Word of God, read and obeyed.
- By committing your child to the Lord your desire is that he/she will someday receive Christ as his/her personal Savior.
- You will invest time, energy, devotion and prayer for your child and help them cultivate a relationship with Christ.
- You need God's help to be godly parents for your child.

Dedication and Baptism

We believe that baptism is a public declaration of an individual's decision to follow Christ. Since infants are not capable of making that decision, we reserve baptism for a time when an individual is old enough to understand their decision to accept Christ as their Savior. Faith is not passed on to a child through dedicating a child; parents are making a commitment to raise their child in the training and instruction of the Lord with the desire that one day their child will accept Christ as their personal Savior and choose to be baptized

Frequently Asked Questions

Is membership at Neighborhood Church of Redding required?

No, child dedication is open to all parents. If you desire to dedicate your child, please contact the NCR Children's Ministry office to obtain more information at 530.221.5683.

What is required of the parents during the ceremony?

The parents stand before those gathered and respond together to the Parents' Commitment statements above.

