

THE CALVARY WAY

A WORD ABOUT BABY DEDICATIONS

The Bible tells us that children are a wonderful gift from the Lord. Psalm 127:3 says,

“Behold children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is His reward.”

Furthermore, we are told that children are for joy and pleasure.

“He grants the barren woman a home like a joyful mother of children.” Psalm 113:9

And again,

“Happy is the man whose quiver is full of them (children).” Psalm 127:5

Jesus enjoyed children too. Mark 10 and Matthew 19 tell us that people brought their children to Him that He might touch and pray for them.

So, as Mark tells us, Jesus lifted each child onto His lap, placed His hands upon them and blessed them.¹

Like the parents seen in the days of our Lord, we as a church family want to bring our children to the Lord. Why? So that He might bless them. So, as a church, we “dedicate” our children.

Where did this religious ceremony of baby dedication originate and what does it mean to us today?

In Jesus' day, when a boy was exactly eight days old, he was brought to the temple for circumcision and consecration. An act of consecration was performed for little girls as well. The ceremony, once completed, marked the child's entrance into God's covenant community. Names were customarily given to the child at this time; the name having been mutually agreed upon by both husband and wife (Luke 1:57-63). After the ceremony the priest would pronounce blessing upon the child and upon his parents. When the blessing was complete, family members and friends in attendance all would shout "Amen!" or, in modern terms, "I agree!"

In these days, thanks to the grace of Jesus Christ, circumcision no longer marks one as a covenant believer. Instead, all who profess Christ as Savior are included in His glorious kingdom and are sealed with the mark of the Holy Spirit. However, as a family, we still consecrate and dedicate our little ones to the Lord.

(1) Matthew 19:13-15 and
Mark 10:13-16

We are located on Long Lake Rd. (18 Mile) and John R on the NW corner.
Service Times: 10 am on Sunday, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday
webpage: ccoaklandcounty.com