

Parent-Child Dedication Information



We invite First Baptist Ocala members, or those who are connected with a FBC Ocala small group Bible study to participate in publicly or privately by dedicating themselves and their children to the Lord.

First Baptist Church Ocala reserves two Sundays a year for Parent-Child Dedications: **Mother's Day in May, and the first Sunday in November.** We also schedule dedications for families on other dates through-out the year at the family's request.

Parent-Child Dedication is more than a baby/child dedication. We (your church family) are asking you as a parent(s) to model Christ likeness in the home, in your church attendance, in prayer, in your Bible Study, and through your faithfulness to trust God in everyday situations.

This is not a "baptism" or "christening". Because your child will need to make a personal commitment to Christ by "believing on the Lord Jesus Christ" the result is "he/she will be saved" Acts 16:31. After that decision he/she is baptized. As a part of the service we are asking the congregation to affirm and support you through their tithes, service and prayers.

The officiating pastor will give the parent a gift bag that will contain: A Bible for the child, a Certificate of Dedication, and a Letter from the officiating pastor that the child will open only when the child receives Christ in the future.

On the day of Dedication, you and your child/children will come before our congregation at the beginning of the Sunday morning service. The Dedication is conducted by Pastor Jerry Easley, Minister to Children and Families, or another pastor on staff. If you have visiting family and friends with you, they are usually asked to stand. There are some brief introductions, and a prayer. Pictures of the children being dedication will be shown on the large screen for church members to see.

Pictures are taken by our staff of the family before or after the dedication. These pictures will be made into a collage for your family and mailed to you along with a DVD of the dedication and worship service.