

Discussion Questions
for February 7 – 13, 2009

Baby Dedication Sunday

OPEN IT

This Sunday, HighPoint celebrated babies.

What does a Baby Dedication service communicate to you?

What do you think that a Baby Dedication service communicates to older children who witness the dedication?

What are some other ways that church and family can celebrate growth and transitions in children's lives?

EXPLORE IT

Psalm 127:3 (TEV) Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a real blessing.

What are some of the ways that children have been a blessing in your life?

Deuteronomy 6:4-7: "Hear O Israel: The Lord our God is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

What actions can an adult take to communicate to a child that their love for God includes all their heart, soul and strength? Did you receive this blessing as a child? What did it look like?

Ephesians 6:4: "Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

Many children grow up angry about their treatment as children. What are some causes for this?

What are some specific ways that parents can bring their children up on the training and instruction of the Lord?

How can you improve relationships with your own parents? If you were to take these actions, what would they communicate to your children?

This is the text from the dedication service on Sunday.

Parents, by coming forward before God and his people at HighPoint Fellowship, do you hereby declare your desire to dedicate yourselves and your child to the Lord? “WE DO.”

So that your child may walk in the abundant life that Christ offers, do you vow by God’s help and in partnership with the church, to provide this baby a Christian home of love and peace, to raise this child in the truth of our Lord’s instruction and discipline, and to encourage this child to one day trust Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord? “WE DO.”

To the church, by being in God’s presence today, do you hereby declare yourselves to be the children of God because you trust in Jesus Christ alone for the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life? “WE DO.”

Do you vow by God’s help, to be faithful in your calling as members of the body of Christ, to help these parents be faithful to God, and to help teach and train these children in the ways of the Lord so that they will one day trust him as Savior and Lord? “WE DO.”

How do you intend to fulfill your part of this commitment? What changes, if any, will this commitment require of you?

TAKE IT HOME

God, our Father,

You created the family at the beginning of Your world. No one knows more about parenting than You. Thank you for the families in my church. Show us how to support one another on this parenting adventure. Give us light for our paths to nurture our children in your love. In Jesus’ name, amen.