

FAITH PATH

Make the most of your moments

Dear Parent,

One of the core values of Grace Point Fellowship is family. We honor God's design of the family being the primary place for discipleship. The Faith Path exists to partner with you as you guide your child's spiritual journey one step at a time. Age-appropriate kits help you leverage the best faith formation strategy for your child's stage of development. In this Parent Dedication kit, we have practical ideas and suggested resources to help you begin well. We encourage you to start today by taking the following simple steps.

STEP ONE: LEARN

We have provided a video and information for this particular Faith Path step at: gpf-tx.org/faithpath/parent-dedication. You will hear from both experts and ordinary families as they describe the importance of intentional parenting and share practical suggestions from their experiences. You will also find a guide that offers practical tips and what we consider to be some of the best resources on the topic. If you would like additional coaching or information on upcoming Faith Path classes or events, please visit gpf-tx.org/faithpath

STEP TWO: START

To help get you started, this kit includes Praying for My Child ideas. We encourage you to go ahead and start a routine in order to put your good intentions into practice.

STEP THREE: PARENT DEDICATION

We would love the opportunity to surround you with prayer and support as you begin the journey of leading your child to a relationship with Jesus.

Grace Point holds PARENT DEDICATION in our services twice a year. We also provide an orientation class prior to each dedication. For information on our next opportunity, please visit gpf-tx.org/faithpath. We hope you find this kit helpful in the process of forming the faith of your child at home. Know that we are grateful to play a role in your family's growing relationship with Jesus.

Joyfully Partnering With You,

Danny & Lorena Rodriguez

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Your Intentional Plan

How will you be intentional this next year?

- ☐ Pray daily for and with my child.
- ☐ Consistently spend time in God's Word.
- ☐ Bless my child daily.
- ☐ Attend church regularly.
- ☐ Other: _____

The next step on the Faith Path is Blessing, recommended at age three. We will send a Blessing kit on your child's third birthday to guide you through this next step.

To request a physical or digital download kit for your kids' ages, visit gpf-tx.org/faithpath or stop by the Home Point Center.

Recommended Resources

- ▶ *Spiritual Parenting* by Michelle Anthony
- ▶ *It Starts at Home* by Kurt D. Bruner
- ▶ *Boundaries with Kids* by Henry Cloud and John Townsend

HomePoint™
Building Strong Families



Commit to Raise Your Child in a God-Honoring Home

*"CHOOSE FOR YOURSELVES THIS DAY WHOM
YOU WILL SERVE... AS FOR ME AND MY
HOUSEHOLD, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD."*

—JOSHUA 24:15



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Congratulations! If you are reading this, your family was recently blessed with a new baby. As a church, we are excited to partner with you as you begin this incredible journey with your child.

What is Parent Dedication?

Parent Dedication is a special time on a weekend in which you make a formal commitment to raise your child in a Christ-centered home. On the Ceremony and Celebration weekend you will be asked to make a public pledge before other parents and the congregation that you will raise your child to know, love and follow Jesus Christ.

The Parent's Commitment

Parent Dedication is your commitment to model, teach and reinforce the Christian Faith. It should not be confused with your child's personal choice to follow Christ. We believe the Bible clearly teaches that each person must decide for themselves to trust in Jesus Christ as both Savior and Lord (Romans 10:9-10). The age a child is ready to make this personal decision will vary depending on the child.

The Church's Commitment

God designed the home as the primary place for faith to be nurtured. One way that we seek to partner with you is by providing resources throughout your child's spiritual journey. We call this the Faith Path.

Parent dedication is the first step. Parent Dedication is also a time for the church to commit to walk alongside you as you point your child toward Christ.

How to Register for a Parent Dedication Service

1. Check gpf-tx.org/faithpath/parent-dedication for dates, and sign up for information for our next Parent Dedication Service.
2. Attend a Parent Dedication Orientation Class. The orientation is typically a couple of weeks before Parent Dedication.
3. Fill out your Family Faith Plan that will be provided at Parent Dedication Orientation.
4. Participate in one of the bi-annual Parent Dedication Ceremony Celebration Weekends.

Additional Celebration Ideas

Ideas for making dedication a special time include...

- Have a dinner or celebration time with family and friends before/ after the weekend service.
- Invite family members and special family friends to write blessings to your child.
- Record a video message for your child to view in the future. Speak words of affirmation, sharing how you are praying for their spiritual journey and how you desire to point them toward Christ. Examples are available for you to watch on the video included with this kit. You can also write a letter if that works better for you.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

PARENT DEDICATION

DAD: I know that I cannot model for my children what I do not personally make a priority in my own life. I am going to do the following two things so that I begin making a consistent investment in myself to be the kind of parent that God wants me to be.

1.

2.

MOM: I know that I cannot model for my children what I do not personally make a priority in my own life. I am going to do the following two things so that I begin making a consistent investment in myself to be the kind of parent that God wants me to be.

1.

2.

IMAGINE THE END:

18 years from now....

HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR CHILD

PARENT DEDICATION

HOW TO USE:

As a guide to pray over your baby.

VALUE:

Begin the routine of prayer for and with your child

INTRODUCTION:

One of the most impactful investments we can make in our children's faith formation is the habit of praying for them.

Rather than repeating the same simple prayers asking for health, happiness and safety, consider the ideas on the reverse side to expand your prayer life and establish a meaningful routine of praying for your child

PRAYERS FROM THEIR HEAD TO THEIR TOES

You can begin praying for your baby during feedings or while he or she falls asleep in your arms. One simple method is to pray "from head to toes" by touching the child gently on the head as you pray and gradually moving your hand all the way down to his or her toes as you pray.

- **Head:** "Give my child wisdom, discernment and an understanding of Your Word."
- **Eyes:** "Help my child see the truth and guard his/her eyes from impurity."
- **Ears:** "Let him/her listen to the Lord and those in authority."
- **Mouth:** "Help my child speak with truth and honesty and use his/her words to praise the Lord."
- **Shoulders:** "Let my child cast his/her burdens on the Lord and give him/her friends who will help him/her stand strong."
- **Hands:** "Help my child learn to work as unto the Lord with a servant's heart."
- **Heart:** "Open my child's heart to salvation, a love of scripture and concern for other people."
- **Feet:** "Inspire my child to follow the Lord all of his/her days."

PRAYING SCRIPTURE

Another method is to begin praying scripture over your child inserting his or her name. For example, pray Psalm 23 by saying "Lord, be NAME'S shepherd so HE/SHE shall not want." Jesus modeled the incredible power of combating Satan by speaking scripture aloud in order to align our desires with God's purposes.

