

# 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 Commissioning?

Parent Commissioning is a special time during a weekend service in which you make a formal commitment to raise your child in a Christ-centered home. We see several examples in the Bible such as 1 Samuel 1:24 – 2:10 when Hannah dedicated Samuel at the temple and Luke 2 where Mary and Joseph dedicated Jesus. During the weekend services you will be asked to make a public commitment before the congregation that you will raise your child to know, love and follow Jesus Christ. 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 Commissioning is the first step.



## The Parent's Commitment

Parent Commissioning 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.

## Parent Commissioning 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 or prayers to your child as a keepsake.
- 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.

## The Church's Commitment

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

### Parent Commissioning Steps:

1. Sign up for Parent Commissioning at [allaboutgrace.org](http://allaboutgrace.org).
2. Attend a Parent Commissioning Orientation Class.
3. Participate in an upcoming Parent Commissioning Weekend.

## Recommended Resources

**Focus on the Family Complete Guide to Baby and Child Care**  
by Paul C. Weisser  
**The Ministry of Motherhood**  
by Sally Clarkson  
**The Power of a Praying Parent**  
by Stormie Omartian

**We are praying with you  
and for you as  
you begin this journey  
with your child.**

**My child, listen and be  
wise. Keep your heart  
on the right path.  
Proverbs 23:19**