

Child Dedication 28 Jan.18

From God to Abraham

Gen. 18:19 For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."

Joshua and the Covenant -- try to think of another time in the OT as positive as this one re Israel, it will be hard to find one!

Joshua 24:15 ...But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Josh. 24:25 On that day **Joshua made a covenant for the people**

Josh. 24:31 **Israel served the Lord throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him** and who had experienced everything the Lord had done for Israel

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. **5** Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. **6** These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. **7** 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.

Thought Questions: What keeps Christian parents from the kind of commitment that makes Deuteronomy 6:4-9 possible? Sports? Entertainment? Cell phones? Breakdown of family structure?

What kinds of religious ceremonies have worked against the kind of commitment called for in Deuteronomy 6:4-9?

Children to be Dedicated

Caleb Jeffrey Pauls

Caleb Jefferey Pauls Born November 9 2016

Caleb is a social, fun loving kid. Happy and always ready with a smile.

Gabriel William Pickar

Gabriel William Pickar born September 21, 2017

. Gabriel is a curious baby and loves to engage in his surroundings. He is talkative and happy most of the time. He is a big eater, also prefers to be held often. Gabriel Loves to watch older brother and usually smiles and giggles at him.

Nora Jane Elder

Nora Jane Elder born June 18, 2017

Nora can mean both "Light" and "Honor," and Jane means, God's Gracious Gift. Each of these names have been fitting for her personality.

Nora is a delight! She is joyful, talkative, curious and a direct communicator. She loves playing with her older brother and sister and her laughter is contagious! She is truly a gracious gift from God.

Everett Calvin Schnider

Everett Calvin Schnider born May 18, 2017

While generally a happy spirited child (he wakes up singing), Everett takes no issue with letting his parents know, loudly! when he is displeased with something. Everett is quite social -- he especially enjoys the company of his sister, Olivia – and typically has a smile for anyone who greets him.

Forming the Covenants

Covenant Vows

Question #1: Have you come here today to covenant before God that you will train up your child in the ways of the Lord?

Question #2: Do you commit to think of training him/her through the flow of your days, from the morning when you get up, through the course of the day, till when you lay down to go to sleep at night?

Covenant Vows

Question #3: Will you seek to model before him/her a life where God is loved with all your heart, soul, mind and strength?

Question #4: Will you take heed to His Word for the wisdom with which to encourage, to teach, to correct him/her, and discipline him/her?

Covenant Vows

Question #5: Will you teach him/her in your family devotions?

Question #6: Will you teach him/her to treasure and love God's Word, the Bible?

Question #7: Will you seek to present him/her to your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who is fully God and fully man; and tell him/her of His great love for him/her, of His death for his sins, of His burial and Resurrection from the dead that he/she might come to personally trust Christ for himself?

Question #8: Will you seek God's help in doing all of this, knowing that, on your own, it is impossible, ... and knowing that, without His Holy Spirit, you will not have the strength to carry this out?

Conclusion

Then, know that the Lord delights in your commitment this day, that He loves your child far more than you do, and that He will strengthen you.

Know that when you fall short, for there are no perfect human parents, and we all fail in many ways, He will be there to forgive you and strengthen you for the blessed task before you.

He will be there with you in all the stages through which your child will grow, and will powerfully present Himself to him/her to believe in and trust.

Jesus and the Children

Luke 18:15 People were also bringing babies to Jesus to have him touch them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. 16 But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 17 I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

Emphasize: For you and your children

Acts 2:38 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

Prayer-

- Our Father in Heaven,

We come to You in Your Son who spoke of the New Covenant in His Blood. We know that in that covenant Jesus said, let the children come to Me. And so He encouraged parents to bring their children to Him-- when they were very young.

And now these parents, in their family devotions, will be bringing them to Jesus, and presenting Jesus to them from the Scriptures. Father, bless their covenanting hearts and call their children to Yourself. Be with these parents and their children through all their child rearing years. And may we see, with the passing of years, that the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these!

In Jesus's Name, Amen