

HERE IS THE COVENANT

- Do you acknowledge your children as gifts from God and give heartfelt thanks for His blessings in your life?
- Do you desire to live godly lives before your children so that they will have an example to follow?
- Do you promise to give your children every possible benefit of home, education, and the church?
- And to that end, do you commit to one another as a family, promising to strengthen your marriage relationship as well as other family bonds in order to create a stable environment to disciple your children unto maturity?
- Do you, today, pledge as parents that you will bring up your child in the discipline and instruction of the Lord?
- Do you commit yourselves to giving your children every opportunity to hear the Gospel so that they might be able to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ?
- Do you here, this day, ask God's blessings upon your children's lives, to sovereignly guide, guard, and direct them through all their years?

A COVENANT FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Will you, members of Oak Grove Baptist Church, be faithful to your calling as members of Christ's body, to pray for, encourage, support, and equip these families so that the next generation may grow up in the knowledge and love of Jesus?

PARENT COMMISSIONING & CHILD DEDICATION

Please note: Because of the nature of this service, we ask that only parents/guardians who are saved followers of Jesus participate. While you do not need to be a member of OGBC to take part, we do ask that you have made the prayerful decision to call Oak Grove your church home - This is, after all, a partnership between church and family. Even if you're a single parent or grandparent, any family surrendered to God's Word and will is welcome to participate in this commemoration & commissioning.

WE ARE FOR... FAMILIES

Families all across our country need support & a safe place for children & students to learn to love & follow Jesus for a lifetime. Oak Grove remains committed to creating this environment and partnering with parents to reach the next generation with the Gospel!



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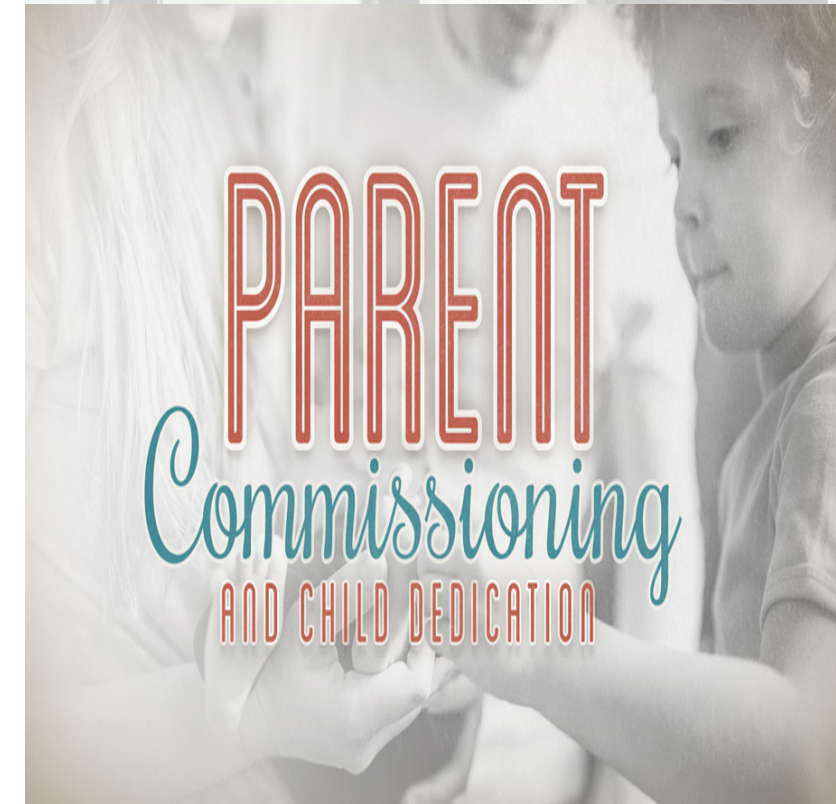
Oak Grove Baptist Church
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"Where it's ALL
about Jesus!"

OAKGROVEBC.NET
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EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT...



Oak  Grove
BAPTIST CHURCH

The Bible teaches us...

Like arrows in the hand
OF A
WARRIOR
ARE THE CHILDREN
OF ONE'S
Youth
PSALM 127:4

Because we believe that children are a blessing from God (Psalm 127:3), our desire at Oak Grove Baptist Church is to partner with families unto the discipleship of the next generation.

Thank you for your interest in participating in our upcoming Parent Commissioning and Child Dedication service. This is a special milestone where parents and guardians commit themselves to pray for, love, and guide their children toward a relationship with Jesus Christ.

As Baptists, we do not baptize infants. However, in both the Old and New Testaments, we find examples of parents with a desire to commemorate the birth of their child and to communicate their heartfelt desire to raise that child to love and follow Jesus to the glory of God above. Just check out **1 Samuel 1** and **Luke 2** to see this precedent from parents like Hannah, Mary and Joseph.



MORE THAN JUST A CHILD DEDICATION...

Even as we dedicate our littlest ones, as parents, we must also be devoted to consistently and intentionally impact them for God's glory and kingdom expansion. God grants to parents the privilege and responsibility of teaching and training their children.

- **Read Deuteronomy 6:4-7** - Parents are exhorted to love God, to be an example in the home, and to teach God's ways to their children
- **Read Mark 10:14-16** - We must welcome the little children as well as their exemplary faith into our midst as a church family
- **Read Ephesians 6:1-4** - Parents are reminded of their duty to bring children up to honor and obey the authorities over them
- **Read Psalm 71:18** - Surely, parents are called to be the spiritual champions in the home. Nevertheless, grandparents, too, play a key role in the faith formation of the next generation.

3 Driving Forces...

- 1 We want to partner with parents...**
Parents and guardians are designed to be the front-line disciple makers of their children's lives. As your home church, it is our joy to encourage and support you in that high calling. Of course, this means that this milestone doesn't have to happen with just babies - we are happy to commission families with preschoolers, elementary and middle- or high-school aged kids.

- 2 Home is the 1st mission field...**
We want to set our sights on parents embracing their role as God's missionary to their kids. You are the most important influence in your child's life! It's our goal to support and affirm at-home discipleship by coming alongside families for prayer, encouragement, worship opportunities, Gospel-centered resources, childcare and Bible study classes for all ages. The question we constantly ask is how we can better equip you as you engage your kids with the Gospel.

- 3 Like a wedding...**
Sending and equipping parents is our focus even as we dedicate our children. Therefore, this service looks more like a wedding wherein the whole church celebrates parents/guardians as they accept and declare their God-given and life-altering duties. By God's grace and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we will walk this faith journey together!