

**Basic Guidelines**  
**For**  
**Parent/Child Dedications**

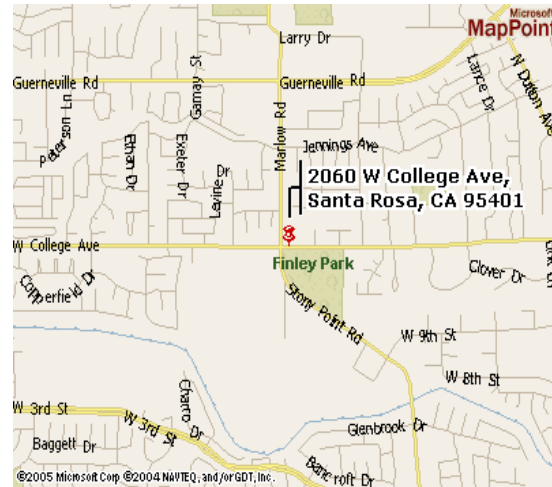
1) Contact the New Day Office so we can plan our dedication services at a mutually convenient time for you and the church.

2) Because of the nature of the parent-child dedications, it is expected that at least one parent be in a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. We strongly encourage your entire family, grandparents, uncles, aunts, stepparents, and Godparents to take part in this public blessing.

3) Please plan to be fifteen minutes early to the service scheduled for your child's dedication, and let one of the leaders know that you are ready.

4) If you have any other questions or concerns about the dedication, call the church office at 526-4088.

**New Day Christian Church**  
**Meets**  
**Sundays at**  
**10:00 a.m.**



**Finley Community Center**  
**2060 West College Avenue**  
**Santa Rosa, CA**



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**PARENT-**  
**CHILD**  
**DEDICATION**



*"Reaching people with the life changing message of Jesus Christ and leading them to be His lifelong followers."*

## Why Should I Dedicate My Child?

The dedication of your child is as much for you as it is for your child. All we possess belongs to the Lord! This includes our children. By dedicating your child you are publicly affirming your desire to give your child to God for his protection and guidance.

You are saying that you want God's perfect will to be established in the raising of your child. As a parent, you are affirming your role as God's instrument to teach His love, His values, and His character to your child.

In essence, the dedication of your child is a moment in which parents declare to God their desire to raise their child, as God would desire. By dedicating your child, everyone in attendance is agreeing in prayer that God would protect your child and guide him or her according to His purpose and will. As a church, we acknowledge that there is a divine plan for your child and as a congregation we submit to following His plan.

***“I will give them singleness of heart & action for their own good and the good of their children after them.”***

—Jeremiah 32:39

## Scripture References For Dedications

In the Old Testament we often see the act of parents giving their children to God. Abraham was earnest as he literally sacrificed his child, Isaac to God. Of course God prevented any harm to come to Isaac, but the full intent of Abraham was to obey God and to give that child back to the One who gave it. As a result of Abraham's obedience, great blessings came upon him and his family.  
(Genesis 22)

Also in scripture is the story of Hannah and how she was barren. In response to her prayers God blessed her with a child. She then took that child to the temple and gave him to the Lord.  
(1Samuel 1:24)

In the New Testament we have the prophecy of Zacharias, which is an acknowledgment of the call of God on John the Baptist's life.  
(Luke 1:67-80)

We see that dedication of children is a very spiritual experience for the child and the parents. It is not the basis for salvation, yet a moment in which the parents can acknowledge that this is a gift that God has entrusted to them. Dedications create a great foundation upon which a rich, spiritual life is built.

## Parent/Child Dedication Is ...

...A public declaration as parents that you will raise your child up in the principles of God's Word.

...A time of prayer for God's blessing, protection and guidance for your child's life.

...A petition for the congregation and ministry leaders to support you as parents, and to pray for the Lord's direction in both your life and your child's.

...A family affair! Please invite your family and friends to come be a part of this precious moment.

## Parent/Child Dedication Is Not ...

...A way for your child to receive salvation. Salvation is not based on any performance of duties or any ritual that parents go through, but it is a result of one's personal commitment to the Lord. This is a decision your son or daughter must make as they grow older.

...A substitute for baptism. In Acts 2:38 we are told to “repent and be baptized...” This is a decision your child must make on their own as they grow older.

...Only for members of New Day Christian Church. As a believer in the Lordship of Jesus Christ in your own life, it is our privilege to share in your decision to dedicate your child to the Lord.

...Only for newborn babies. Many times parents who have come to know the Lord or have rededicated their lives to the Lord after they have children, desire to dedicate their children to God, even though they may be older. We are glad to share in this joy!