

C. Interview with Parents

The Pastor should have an interview with the parents who want to have their child dedicated. The purpose of this interview is threefold:

1. To find out whether or not the parents are saved.

If neither of the parents is saved, the Pastor should attempt to lead them to a knowledge of Jesus Christ as personal Saviour. If he is unsuccessful, the Pastor should refuse to dedicate the child. If only one of the parents is saved, the Pastor should attempt to lead the unsaved parent to a knowledge of Jesus Christ as personal Saviour. If he is unsuccessful, the Pastor should request the unsaved parent not to participate in the Dedication Service.

2. To remind the parents of their responsibility to bring up the child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
3. To instruct the parents concerning what they are to do in the Dedication Service.

D. Time of the Service

A good time to have the Dedication Service is immediately before the announcements in the Morning Worship Service.

E. Order of Service

1. The Pastor requests the parents whose child is to be dedicated to bring the child to the front of the church.
2. The Pastor retires from the pulpit, and takes his place at the front of the church.
3. The parents rise to their feet, walk to the front of the church, and take their place in front of the Pastor. The father carries the child.
4. The Pastor reads Mark 10:13-16.
5. The Pastor prays.
6. The Pastor addresses the following words to the congregation:

"You who are gathered today in worship are privileged to witness the coming of these parents to dedicate their offspring to the tender care and keeping of God our Father, and to the love of the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. In so doing they also rededicate themselves to the maintenance of a Christian home where Christ shall be honored and the Word of God held in reverence."

7. The Pastor addresses the following words to the parents:

"And you parents who come bringing your child _____,
as is fitting, to the house of the Lord to offer h__ before God