



# Baby Dedication

Bruce Gust

**Pastor:** The child you hold is a gift from your Heavenly Father. Before the thought of a little boy entered your mind, the Lord had already determined that on the fourth of February, Joshua Bruce would be born and you, Bruce and Michelle, would become parents. Joshua's birth is therefore an occasion to celebrate and to reflect on God's goodness. Bruce, Michelle, what is your response?

**Parents:** We are blessed.

**Pastor:** Scripture commands you as parents to teach your child about the Lord Jesus Christ. Only then will he be adequately equipped for the challenges of this life and sufficiently prepared to meet the Lord when He returns. But your child's spiritual welfare will not be accomplished simply by telling him about Jesus. It is the words of your mouth combined with the obvious Presence of the Holy Spirit in your own life that will effectively communicate the message of God's love and saving power to your child. The birth of your son needs to inspire within the both of you a greater resolve to let Christ shine through you by being even more intentional in your pursuit of holiness and the supremacy of God in your home. Bruce, Michelle, what is your response?

**Parents:** We are committed.

**Pastor:** As a church we are all part of the family of God. As a family we need to work alongside Bruce and Michelle in their efforts to portray Christ to their child. Are we merely spectators, or will we rise to the challenge of being brothers and sisters in Christ and exhibit godly characteristics and thus provide continuity in what is being taught at home and what is being seen at church? Congregation, what is your response?

**Congregation:** We are family.

**Pastor:** As a family we must also be willing to hold one another accountable and confront one another when a mistake is made in order that the purity and integrity of our commitments are maintained. You have heard Bruce and Michelle state their commitment to a greater level of Christlikeness for the sake of their child. Will you now acknowledge their commitment and indicate your willingness to help them keep their promise? Church, what is your response?

**Congregation:** We are witnesses.

**Pastor:** Let us pray...

*(At this point, the pastor or one of the parents can pray a prayer which has been previously written by the parents.)*

**Pastor:** ...and all God's people said, "Amen."

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