

## SAMUEL'S DEDICATION SERVICE

February 19, 2023

1. We have been asking the Lord for more young people for a long time and He is certainly using Lance and Heather to answer those prayers.
2. Lance and Heather have dedicated Charity, Sophia, and Josiah to the Lord here at CBC and they are dedicating Samuel today.
3. Dedicating children to the Lord serves as a good reminder that our children ultimately belong to the Lord. Parents and Grand-parents have the great honor and responsibility to love, provide, protect, and teach their children and grandchildren to trust the Lord and His Word.
4. **Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! 5) "And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6) "And these words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart; 7) and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. 8) "And you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. 9) "And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.**
5. **Ephesians 6:4 fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.**  
**Colossians 3:21 Fathers, do not exasperate your children, that they may not lose heart.**

Parents should teach their children diligently and consistently by both word and example. Children should be disciplined when they need it, praised when they deserve it, and encouragement when they lack confidence or when they are afraid.

6. ***Psalm 127:3-5 Behold, children are a gift of the LORD; The fruit of the womb is a reward. 4) Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. 5) How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them;***

vs. 4 - Children help their aged parents and protect them as effectually as arrows in the hand of a warrior.

7. ***Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.***

Lance and Heather have done a phenomenal job of teaching and training their adorable children about God and His word and how to trust Him in all things. Training children is a round the clock job and it takes love, commitment, and time.

8. No family can function properly unless it is structured the way that God designed it to be; Lance and Heather's family certainly operates according to God's design.

- a. ***Colossians 3:18 Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.***
- b. ***Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love your wives, and do not be embittered against them.***
- c. ***Colossians 3:20 Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.***

9. Read the Bishop email:

I hope you and Kari are doing well.

I just wanted to touch base about Samuel's dedication on Sunday. There is a particular hymn that we would like played if it is okay with you.

The song revolves around the life of Samuel - in particular when he was a young boy ministering at the tabernacle. As you may know, we named Samuel Joseph after two great men of the Bible and we pray that he displays the same humility, courage, obedience, faithfulness, and trust in God that these men displayed throughout

their lives. The lyrics to this hymn embody what our prayer is for Samuel as well as for each of our children and indeed for ourselves as well. We pray that his ear would be open to the Lord and that he would be obedient to His calling, that he would have a lowly, humble heart that waits upon God and a resilient faith throughout his life - that he will come to know our great God as a young child and that his relationship with his heavenly Father will grow deeper and more intimate throughout his life. We pray that as his parents we will be living examples to him of God's unfailing love and would be faithful to teach him the great truths of Scripture throughout his life, never ceasing despite our human frailty to point him to His Savior, the ultimate Guardian and Shepherd of his soul.

10. We will hear "*Hushed Was the Evening Hymn*" and the lyrics are on a printout in your bulletin so we can follow the singer.
11. Lance and Heather are now going to dedicate Samuel to the Lord and commit themselves to rearing him in the admonition of the Lord.

Lance and Heather, do you hereby declare your tremendous gratitude to the Lord for your son Samuel and will you dedicate yourselves and Josiah to do His will? Furthermore, do you pledge that with God's help you will provide Samuel a Christian home with love and peace, to raise him according to God's Word, giving him doctrinal instruction and discipline?

12. Like all parents, Lance and Heather are going to need prayer, encouragement, and help from their family and their church family.

So, I'm asking everyone here who are willing to pledge to help Lance and Heather with whatever they may need in rearing Charity, Sophia, Josiah, and Samuel to stand.

So you understand that by standing you are pledging to help Lance and Heather and their children however you can, especially with your love, prayers, encouragement, and support.

If this is true, please confirm it by saying "Yes."

13. Please be seated. Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for gifting Lance and Heather with four wonderful children and we ask that your blessings will be upon them. We pray that you will give them wisdom, discernment, and endurance as they face the challenges of rearing godly children in a godless world. May all of us be eager to help them and encourage them and most importantly, that we pray for them. We lift our prayer in Jesus name. Amen