BABY DEDICATION IS A CEREMONY IN WHICH BELIEVING PARENTS, AND SOMETIMES ENTIRE FAMILIES, MAKE **A COMMITMENT BEFORE THE LORD** TO RAISE THAT CHILD ACCORDING TO GOD'S WORD AND GOD'S WAYS.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5 "HEAR, O ISRAEL: THE LORD OUR GOD, THE LORD IS ONE! 5 YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.

DEUTERONOMY 6:6 "AND THESE WORDS WHICH I COMMAND YOU TODAY SHALL BE IN YOUR HEART.

DEUTERONOMY 6:7 YOU SHALL TEACH THEM DILIGENTLY TO YOUR CHILDREN AND SHALL TALK OF THEM WHEN YOU SIT IN YOUR HOUSE, WHEN YOU WALK BY THE WAY, WHEN YOU LIE DOWN, AND WHEN YOU RISE UP.

RESPONSIBILITIES INVOLVED IN BABY DEDICATION CHRISTIAN PARENTS WHO DEDICATE A CHILD ARE MAKING A PROMISE TO THE LORD BEFORE THE CHURCH **CONGREGATION TO DO EVERYTHING** WITHIN THEIR POWER TO RAISE THE CHILD IN THE FEAR OF THE LORD.

PROVERBS 1:7 THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE **BEGINNING OF KNOWLEDGE, BUT** FOOLS DESPISE WISDOM AND **INSTRUCTION.**

WE RAISE OUR CHILDREN SIMPLY... PRAYERFULLY... & CONSISTENTLY... PREPARING THE CHILD... SO THE CHILD CAN MAKE A **DECISION ON THEIR OWN TO** SURRENDER TO AND FOLLOW GOD.

PARENTS WHO MAKE THIS VOW, OR COMMITMENT, ARE INSTRUCTED TO RAISE THE CHILD IN THE WAYS OF GOD AND NOT **ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN** WAYS.

SOME OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE TEACHING AND TRAINING THE CHILD IN GOD'S WORD, **DEMONSTRATING PRACTICAL** EXAMPLES OF GODLINESS, **DISCIPLINING THE CHILD** ACCORDING TO GOD'S WAYS, AND PRAYING EARNESTLY FOR THE CHILD.

AN EXAMPLE OF BABY DEDICATION IN SCRIPTURE... HANNAH A **BARREN WOMAN, PRAYED FOR A** CHILD: 1 SAMUEL 1:11

1 SAMUEL 1:11A THEN SHE MADE A VOW AND SAID, "O LORD OF HOSTS, IF YOU WILL INDEED LOOK ON THE **AFFLICTION OF YOUR MAIDSERVANT** AND REMEMBER ME, AND NOT FORGET YOUR MAIDSERVANT...

1 SAMUEL 1:11B ...BUT WILL GIVE YOUR MAIDSERVANT A MALE CHILD, THEN I WILL GIVE HIM TO THE LORD ALL THE DAYS OF HIS LIFE, AND NO RAZOR SHALL COME UPON HIS HEAD."

1 SAMUEL 1:15 BUT HANNAH ANSWERED AND SAID, "NO, MY LORD, I AM A WOMAN OF SORROWFUL SPIRIT. I HAVE DRUNK NEITHER WINE NOR INTOXICATING DRINK, BUT HAVE POURED OUT MY SOUL BEFORE THE LORD.

HANNAH WAS IN THE TEMPLE WORSHIPING AND PRAYING. ELI THE PRIEST SAW HER AND THOUGHT SHE WAS DRUNK.

1 SAMUEL 1:16 DO NOT **CONSIDER YOUR MAIDSERVANT** A WICKED WOMAN, FOR OUT OF THE ABUNDANCE OF MY **COMPLAINT AND GRIEF I HAVE** SPOKEN UNTIL NOW."

1 SAMUEL 1:17 THEN ELL ANSWERED AND SAID, "GO IN PEACE, AND THE GOD OF ISRAEL **GRANT YOUR PETITION WHICH** YOU HAVE ASKED OF HIM."

1 SAMUEL 1:18 AND SHE SAID, "LET YOUR MAIDSERVANT FIND FAVOR IN YOUR SIGHT." SO THE WOMAN WENT HER WAY AND ATE, AND HER FACE WAS NO LONGER SAD.

WHEN ELKANNAH AND HANNAH RETURNED HOME, SHE BECAME PREGNANT.

WHEN GOD ANSWERED HANNAH'S PRAYER BY GIVING HER A SON, SHE REMEMBERED HER VOW, SHE GOES TO THE TEMPLE TO ELI THE PRIEST PRESENTING SAMUEL TO THE LORD:

1 SAMUEL 1:26 AND SHE SAID, "O MY LORD! AS YOUR SOUL LIVES. MY LORD, I AM THE WOMAN WHO STOOD BY YOU HERE, PRAYING TO THE LORD.

1 SAMUEL 1:27 FOR THIS CHILD I PRAYED, AND THE LORD HAS **GRANTED ME MY PETITION** WHICH I ASKED OF HIM.

1 SAMUEL 1:28 THEREFORE / ALSO HAVE LENT HIM TO THE LORD; AS LONG AS HE LIVES HE SHALL BE LENT TO THE LORD." SO THEY WORSHIPED THE LORD THERE.

THE CEREMONY AT TBC WE DEDICATE OUR CHILDREN BY RETURNING THEM TO THE LORD IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD.

AT TBC WE DO THIS AS A CHURCH FAMILY IN A WORSHIP **SERVICE BECAUSE WE BELIEVE** THE CHURCH IS GOD'S DRIVING FORCE TO BRING ABOUT HIS WILL IN THE EARTH.

NATHANIEL AND CHEYENNE... PLEASE COME FORWARD WITH RAYLAN...

TODAY THIS FAMILY... THESE PARENTS... NATHANIEL & **CHEYENNE LEM WITH THEIR** FAMILY BRING **RAYLAN THOMASLEM BEFORE THIS CONGREGATION** AND TO THE LORD.

CHURCH FAMILY [STAND] ... DO YOU COVENANT WITH THIS FAMILY TO COME ALONGSIDE THEM TO GIVE SUPPORT, TRAINING, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND LOVE? **RESPONSE: I WILL. [SEATED]**

WOULD THE FAMILIES OF THESE PARENTS PLEASE STAND?

AS RAYLAN'S PARENTS AND FAMILY DO YOU UNITE YOUR **HEARTS AND EFFORTS IN** BRINGING, SUPPORTING, AND **DEDICATING RAYLAN TO** THE LORD? **RESPONSE: I WILL [SEATED]**

HOLDING RAYLAN...

ASK THE PARENTS...

NATHANIEL AND CHEYENNE... DO YOU COVENANT WITH GOD AND YOUR CHURCH FAMILY TO **RAISE RAYLAN**

PARENTS RESPOND: WE WILL

UPON THE CONFESSION OF YOUR MOUTH TO DEDICATE YOUR CHILD TO THE LORD... I RETURN HIM TO YOUR LOVING CARE...

TO THE ELDERS AND CONGREGATION:

IF THE LORD IS GIVING YOU A WORD FOR THIS CHILD OR FAMILY, COME TO AN ELDER

CONGREGATION, PLEASE STAND AND STRETCH YOUR HANDS TOWARD THIS FAMILY...

PRAY FOR DAD, MOM, GRANDS