

Part 6 How to Dedicate your Marriage, Children, Ministry & Business to the Lord

The scripture clearly tells us that every good gift comes from the Lord:

*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. **(James 1:17 KJV)***

Amongst the greatest gifts we receive from the Lord are our parents, our family, and the gift of creating a new family. It all begins with a marriage between a man and a woman. Please understand that I refer to a gift from God, not a gift we choose for ourselves. This is especially true when it comes to choosing a spouse:

*House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the LORD. **(Proverbs 19:14 KJV)***

We, believers in Christ, have a real problem in the Church of God with broken families. And the reason for broken families is broken marriages. In turn, the reason for broken marriages is immaturity amongst believers when it comes to choosing a spouse and dedicating one's marriage to the Lord. How many of us have prayed to God years in advance for a godly spouse? Or, how many of us married an unbelieving spouse?

Let's assume one has chosen the right and godly spouse. The very next step after the marriage is a dedication of the marriage. If one is about to get married, the most appropriate time for dedication is at the wedding. The dedication should be added to the vows.

How is the marriage dedication done? The husband and wife should discuss the matter in advance, and if both agree, they should choose an appropriate time, with or without witnesses, bow on their knees before God while holding hands together, and declare the following example dedication prayer:

Abba Father, we dedicate our marriage to You with thankful hearts, grateful for the opportunity to serve the Kingdom of Christ jointly with my spouse. We hereby pray and declare before You that we commit this marriage to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for His glory, honour and praise. We pray Lord, may you lead us in our marriage in the way that we should go, both of us submitting to Your will, and to one another in obedience to Your Word. Lord, if there are any petitions from the evil one upon our marriage or posterity, we plead the Blood of Your Son Jesus over every area of our lives and thank you for the perfect work of Jesus Christ on our behalf at the Cross. We love You Lord, help us to love one another with Your amazing Love. Amen.

If a married couple has children, and dedication has not been done, the children should be told about their dedication need and at appropriate time they should be dedicated to the Lord. The husband should declare the dedication prayer while holding hands with his wife and children, all on their knees. This is an example dedication prayer for children:

I thank you Lord for my family and the gift of my wife and our children. Here today my wife and I dedicate our children back to You for your glory, honour and praise. Please Lord, give us wisdom and grace to bring them up in the way that is pleasing to You. We plead the Blood of Jesus over them and pray that Your perfect will over their lives will be established. Amen.

The same dedication principle should be applied in every area of one's life, including business, work or ministry. Here is an example of dedication prayer for a ministry:

Almighty God, we hereby dedicate this ministry to You for your glory, honour and praise. We pray the Kingdom of Your Son Jesus to prosper through this ministry. We pray for wisdom and grace from your Spirit to lead us every step of the way. We plead the Blood of Jesus over this ministry and every member included and our loved ones. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

The same model-prayer can be used for dedication of your business. Our next part 7 is about Practical Prayer.