

BABY / CHILD DEDICATION

What It Is - What It Is not -
Why We Do It

Scripture (NLT): Mark 10:13-16

Big Idea

Dedication is:

Parents/guardians presenting a child to God

A commitment to raise the child toward Christ

The church promising support and discipleship

A moment of prayer, blessing, and accountability

Scripture (NLT): Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Mark 10:13-16

Why This Matters

Children are a gift and a
stewardship:

Children are a heritage

Faith is formed in the home

Raise them in the Lord

Scripture (NLT): Psalm 127:3; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Ephesians 6:4

Hannah & Samuel

1 Samuel 1:24-28 shows:
Gratitude to God
Public presentation
Entrusting the child to God's
purposes

Scripture (NLT): 1 Samuel 1:24-28

Jesus Welcomes Children

Mark 10:13-16:

Jesus receives children

Blesses them

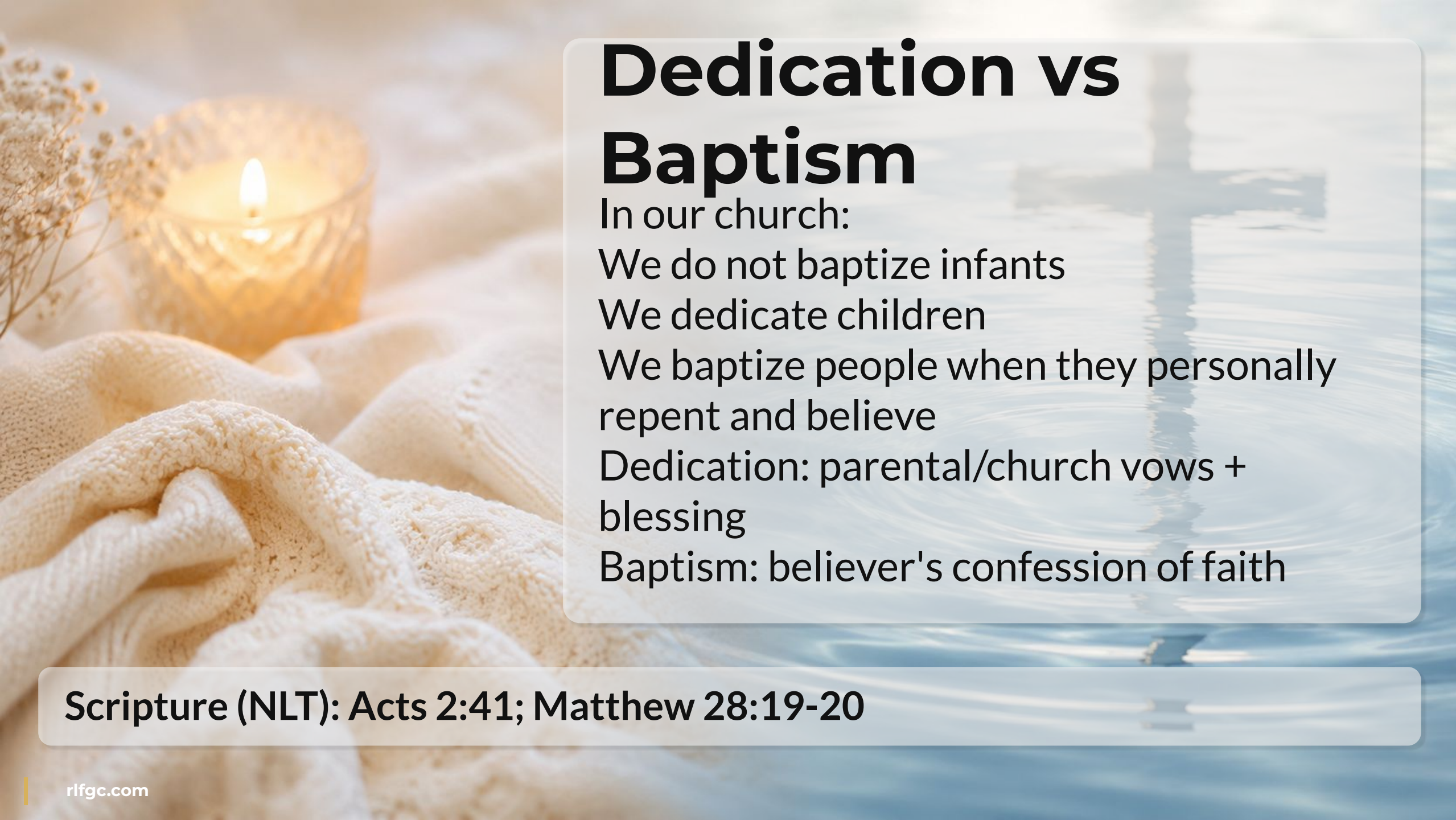
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Him attitude

Scripture (NLT): Mark 10:13-16

Jesus Presented as a Child

Families bring children before God among God's people.

Scripture (NLT): Luke 2:22-24



Dedication vs Baptism

In our church:

We do not baptize infants

We dedicate children

We baptize people when they personally repent and believe

Dedication: parental/church vows + blessing

Baptism: believer's confession of faith

Scripture (NLT): Acts 2:41; Matthew 28:19-20

What Dedication DOES

Dedication is a public moment to:

- 1) Thank God
- 2) Commit to Christian parenting
- 3) Invite church support
- 4) Pray for future faith and protection



Scripture (NLT): Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Titus 2:3-5; Mark 10:16

What Dedication Does NOT Do

Dedication does NOT:
Save the child automatically
Guarantee future faith
Replace personal repentance/faith later
Replace baptism when the child believes
Each person must respond to God personally.

Scripture (NLT): Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 10:9-10

Who Can Dedicate?

A parent or legal guardian may dedicate
One dedicating adult should make a
sincere Christian commitment

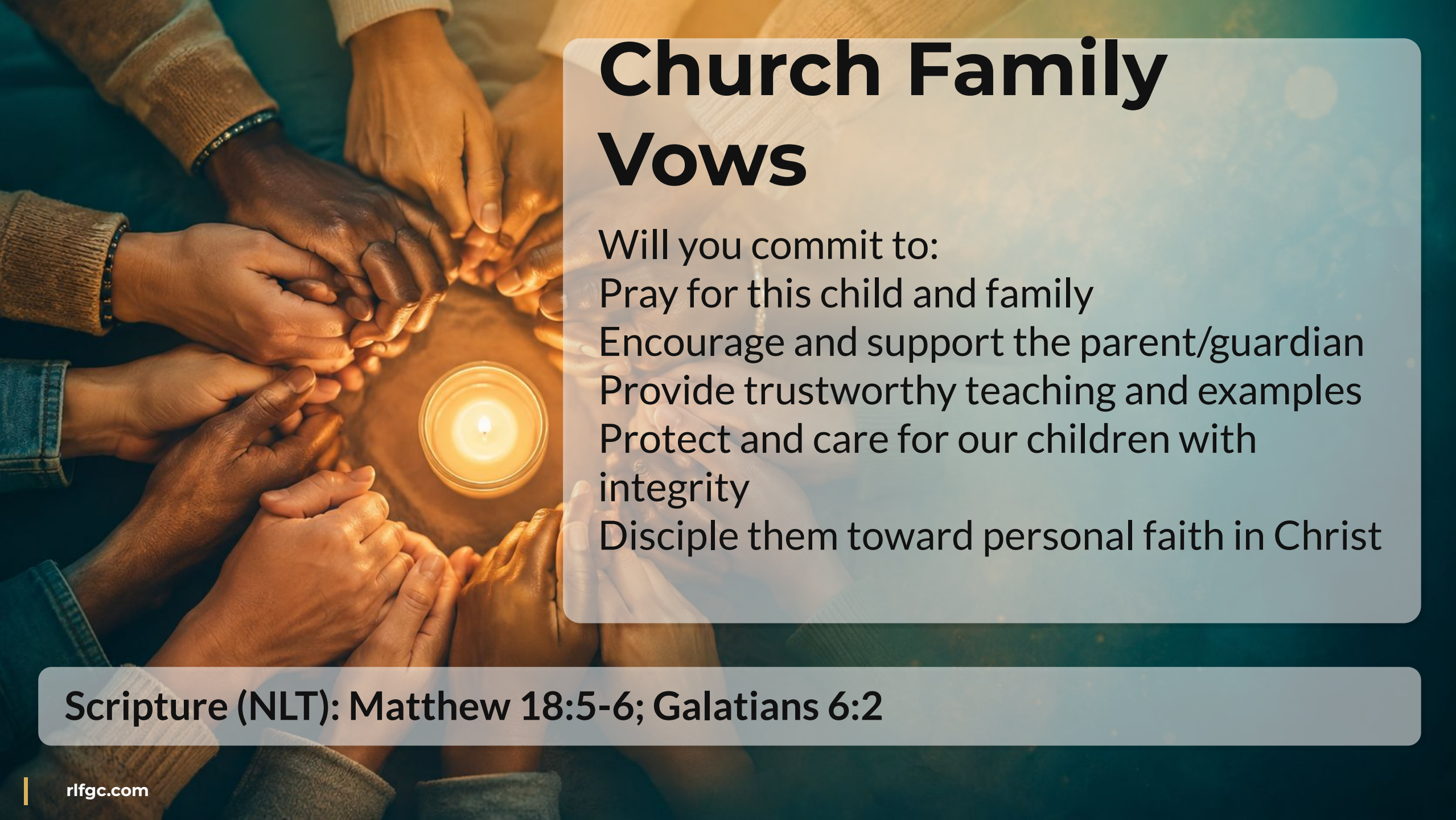
If one spouse is not a believer, the
believing parent can still dedicate
Pastoral option: prayer of blessing when
vows are not possible

Scripture (NLT): Joshua 24:15; Deuteronomy 6:6-7; 1 Corinthians 7:12-16

Parent/Guardian Vows

Do you commit, by God's help, to:
Follow Jesus yourself
Teach God's Word in your home
Pray; model repentance and faith
Lead with love and integrity
Partner with the church for
discipleship

Scripture (NLT): Luke 9:23; Deuteronomy 6:6-7; 1 John 1:9; Ephesians 6:4; Hebrews 10:24-25

A photograph showing a group of people's hands of various skin tones clasped together in a circle, surrounding a single lit candle. The scene is warmly lit, suggesting a prayer or ceremony. The hands are positioned around the candle, which is the central point of light.

Church Family Vows

Will you commit to:

Pray for this child and family

Encourage and support the parent/guardian

Provide trustworthy teaching and examples

Protect and care for our children with
integrity

Disciple them toward personal faith in Christ

Scripture (NLT): Matthew 18:5-6; Galatians 6:2

Prayer & Blessing

Pray for:

Protection, wisdom, friendships

The child's future

repentance/faith

Strength for the parent/guardian

Peace in a mixed-faith home

The church's faithfulness

Scripture (NLT): Numbers 6:24-26; James 1:5

FAQs

Can a single parent dedicate? Yes. The church stands with you.

My spouse is not a believer? Yes, if a believing guardian can make the vows.

Can grandparents/guardians dedicate? Yes, if they are legal/primary caregivers.

Scripture (NLT): Psalm 68:5; 1 Corinthians 7:12-16



How Dedications Work Here

Sign-up and brief meeting with a pastor

Choose date/service

Names/pronunciation + photo guidelines

Certificate + next steps

Parenting group and kids ministry

Scripture (NLT): Proverbs 22:6; Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Close

Dedication is the beginning.
The real work is everyday
discipleship - together.
Close in prayer.

Scripture (NLT): Deuteronomy 6:6-7