

**DEDICATION OF WILLIAM WYATT SIMIS**  
**OCTOBER 22, 2006**  
**CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
**LA PAZ, BCS, MEXICO**

**PASTOR JOYCE:**

This morning, ALLEN and KATHY bring their son, WILLIAM WYATT to be dedicated to the Lord. Since we are an ecumenical congregation, let us explain what this means for ALLEN and KATHY. WYATT will be dedicated, not baptized, in keeping with their Christian heritage. They believe that their child's dedication is a time for them to recommit themselves as parents to the Lord, and to the raising of their children in Christian values. As WYATT grows older, it is their hope that someday he will reach a place where he will decide to accept Christ as his personal Lord and Savior, and then be baptized.

Standing with ALLEN and KATHY are Allen's FATHER, RICHARD and his wife, LAVONNE SIMIS, Allen's SISTER VICKY and her husband, GARRETT STRITCH. And, of course, there are all of you--their Crossroads family who have prayed and celebrated with them over the birth of this beautiful baby boy born ten weeks ago today.

In their marriage and desire to have children, Allen and Kathy claimed the prayer of Jabez: And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, "Oh, that you would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that your hand would be with me, and that you would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!" So God granted him what he requested. (I Chronicles 4:10.)

**KATHY & ALLEN:**

In the fall of 2003, Allen and Kathy had planned on sailing from Ensenada to La Paz. At that time, Kathy was 3 months pregnant with Morgan (who is named Richard Morgan after his Gumpa standing with us today). However, as departure neared, Hurricane Marty destroyed Marina de La Paz where they had planned on mooring, so they chose to go to Puerto Vallarta instead. It was a fire aboard their boat, Love Song, that brought them to La Paz for repairs, with which these 3 men and two other brother in laws sailed over within the charred interior. It was Susan and Dennis Ross, friends from Ensenada, who told them about Crossroads. It took them several tries to find it!

**(Allen and Kathy talk about Wyatt's name.)**

There are four significant points to the name of our son:

- 1) The males in our family all go by their middle names. Since Allen's first name is actually James, after his grandfather, Morgan's first name is Richard, after his grandfather Richard III who is with us today, and Wyatt was named William after his maternal Grandpa Cray.
- 2) Two W's were chosen, William Wyatt, to match my father's initials, WW, or William Warren Cray.
- 3) As sailors, it was significant to us when we found a definition of Morgan meaning "Sea Warrior" and when we discovered that Wyatt means, "Little Warrior" we were thrilled to have a matching W as well as the appropriate family position of a "little" brother warrior.

4) We are particularly fond of the movie, Tombstone, and with the Simis family's heritage of Arizona we were pleased to name our boys two of the three famous EARP brothers' names, Morgan and Wyatt (Earp). Right now it's Wyatt BURP!

**JOYCE:**

Scripture reveals to us Jesus loved children and blessed them.

**LaVonne Simis** is going to read these familiar words from the Gospel of Matthew 19:13-15:

*Little children were brought for Jesus to lay hands on them and pray. But the disciples scolded those who brought them. "Don't bother him," they said. But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and don't prevent them. For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."*

Scripture also tells us to imprint on our children's hearts the ways of God. **Vicky Simis will** read from Deuteronomy 6:4-7:

*O Israel, listen: Jehovah is our God, Jehovah alone. You must love him with all your heart, soul, and might. And you must think constantly about these commandments I am giving you today. You must teach them to your children and talk about them when you are at home or out for a walk; at bedtime and the first thing in the morning. Tie them on your finger, wear them on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house!"*

**PASTOR DAVID:**

Allen and Kathy, you have come before this congregation conscious of the awesome responsibility that is yours in rearing baby Wyatt with a knowledge of the love of God, and the teachings of God's Holy Word. You have come to dedicate Wyatt back to God, and to dedicate yourselves in seeking God's will for this task. You also seek this church's support as you prayerfully carry out your parental responsibilities. Do you now present Wyatt before Almighty God in a solemn act of dedication?

**Allen and Kathy:** We do

**DAVID:**

Do you now promise to consecrate yourselves as parents to bring up Wyatt in the nurture and teachings of the Lord?

**Allen and Kathy:** We do

**DAVID:**

Do you now promise to live, to the best of your ability, a Christ-centered lifestyle that will help Wyatt grow in the love and knowledge of Jesus Christ?

**Allen and Kathy:** We will

**DAVID:**

Richard and LaVonne, as Allen's parents, also standing here as representatives for Kathy's parents, Bill and Maria, do you promise to stand beside Allen and Kathy in the rearing of Wyatt? To pledge your love, support, and experience in a way that will encourage Wyatt to seek God's path?

**Richard (Dick) and LaVonne:** We will

**JOYCE:**

To those of you in the congregation, as members of the family of God, do you promise to assist in every way possible in the teaching, guiding, loving and nurturing of this child so that he might grow in the wisdom and grace of God? If so, state “we will.” (Congregation says “We will.”)

**DAVID:**

What name have you given this child?

**Allen and Kathy: William Wyatt Simis**

Allen and Kathy, having heard your desire as parents to offer your son the richest blessings of life, it is our joyous privilege and honor as ministers of the Gospel to commend William Wyatt Simis into God’s gracious keeping.

Now please join us as we move to the center of the room and invite all of you to gather around the family. **Iza is going to offer a prayer of dedication in Spanish, and then David will offer a prayer in English.**

(Move to center of room for closing prayers.)

**JOYCE:**

At this time, we are going to sing a song of blessing for baby Wyatt. Everyone will recognize the tune to the song Edelweiss, as it’s sung through once, please join in singing it the second and third round.

**SONG OF BLESSING:**

**MAY THE LORD, MIGHTY GOD**

**BLESS AND KEEP YOU FOREVER,**

**GRANT YOU PEACE, PERFECT PEACE,**

**STRENGTH IN EVERY ENDEAVOR.**

**LIFT YOUR EYES AND SEE HIS FACE,**

**FEEL HIS GRACE FOREVER.**

**MAY THE LORD, MIGHTY GOD**

**BLESS AND KEEP YOU FOREVER.**