

Answering The Call to Ministry

Michael L. Hargett, Sr. PhD
Apostolic Servant Leader
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The Apostolic Thrust

Vision

Building people and Transforming lives!
(LifeShape Skills)

Mission

Deliverance by Evangelism, Discipleship by
Education,
Development by Empowerment and
Deployment by Enterprising.

- (Millennium Ministry)

Ethos

Whole life = Whole person
(Mind-Body-Soul)

Assignment

Worshipping God and Serving
people!
(CPR) Consistent-Practical-Realistic

Five Fold Ministry Gifts
(Ephesians Chapter 4)
Saints-Work-Edification
Unity-Knowledge-Fullness



Course Objectives

Learn: The role of ministers in the church.

Discover: The importance ministers in the community at large.

Explore: The your role and gifts in ministry.

Plan: To actively participant and use your gifts in ministry.

Execute: The plan to minister in the community.



What Makes One Effective?

What makes for effective Eldership?

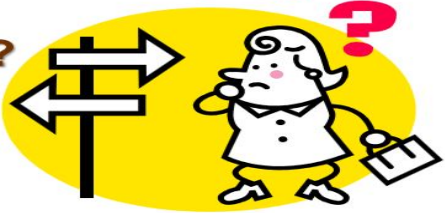


What is an Elder?

How has it changed?

Who can be an Elder?

What is required now?



Becoming a Minister (Elder)

- Who (has) asked you to consider Ministry?
- What were/are your feelings?
- What things need to be considered?
- What is it that made/will make you say “Yes”



What is An Elder

- A distinctive feature of reformed identity.
- Elders alongside leaders have responsibility for spiritual care of the local church.
- Elders are elected by the local Church. (As people with spiritual gifts aides the church.)
- Elders' are at the heart of the local church. (Offers the impetus/leadership for mission, witness, service & fruitful life as God's Servants)



Elder Qualifications			
I Timothy 3:1-7		Titus 1:5-9	
Vs. 1	Aspires to be an elder	Vs. 6	Above reproach
	Desires the work of an elder		Husband of one wife
Vs. 2	Above reproach		Children who believe
	Husband of one wife		Children avoid worthless activities
	Temperate		Children are not rebellious
	Prudent	Vs. 7	An above reproach steward
	Respectable		Not self-willed
	Hospitable		Not quick-tempered
	Able to teach		Not addicted to wine
Vs. 3	Not addicted to wine		Not Pugnacious
	Not pugnacious		Not fond of sordid gain
	Gentle	Vs. 8	Hospitable
	Peaceable		Loving what is good
	Free from the love of money		Sensible
Vs. 4	Manages His Household Well		Just
	Children are under control		Devout
	Dignified Parenting		Self-controlled
Vs. 6	Not a new convert	Vs. 9	Holding fast sound doctrine
Vs. 7	Good reputation outside the church		Able to exhort people in the truth
			Able to refute people who contradict

Qualifications for Elders/Overseers and Deacons

Self-controlled	ELDER	ITi 3:2; Tit 1:8	Temperate	ELDER	ITi 3:2; Tit 1:7
Hospitable	ELDER	ITi 3:2; Tit 1:8		DEACON	ITi 3:8
Able to teach	ELDER	ITi 3:2; 5:17; Tit 1:9	Respectable	ELDER	ITi 3:2
Not violent but gentle	ELDER	ITi 3:3; Tit 1:7		DEACON	ITi 3:8
Not quarrelsome	ELDER	ITi 3:3	Not given to drunkenness	ELDER	ITi 3:3; Tit 1:7
Not a lover of money	ELDER	ITi 3:3		DEACON	ITi 3:8
Not a recent convert	ELDER	ITi 3:6	Manages his own family well	ELDER	ITi 3:4
Has a good reputation with outsiders	ELDER	ITi 3:7		DEACON	ITi 3:12
Not overbearing	ELDER	Tit 1:7	Sees that his children obey him	ELDER	ITi 3:4-5; Tit 1:6
Not quick-tempered	ELDER	Tit 1:7		DEACON	ITi 3:12
Loves what is good	ELDER	Tit 1:8	Does not pursue dishonest gain	ELDER	Tit 1:7
Upright, holy	ELDER	Tit 1:8		DEACON	ITi 3:8
Disciplined	ELDER	Tit 1:8	Keeps hold of the deep truths	ELDER	Tit 1:9
Above reproach (blameless)	ELDER DEACON	ITi 3:2; Tit 1:6 ITi 3:9		DEACON	ITi 3:9
Husband of one wife	ELDER DEACON	ITi 3:2; Tit 1:6 ITi 3:12	Sincere	DEACON	ITi 3:8
			Tested	DEACON	ITi 3:10

A Licensed Minister

- Outward sign of God's call => Spiritual guidance.
- License is conditional. Authorizes a minister to perform all ministerial functions under the local church.
- Subject to the terms of the license to only act as clergy in the context of a local congregation and/or mentoring leader.
- Some licenses issued restrict activities to performing specific duties, such as preaching, while not permitting a minister to officiate at weddings or funerals.
- Others allow licensed ministers to perform all rites and sacraments, but only within the supervising local church.



Ordination

- Reflects Elders as integral part of Eternal Life Fellowship Ministries.
- Ordination as an Elder of the Eternal Life Fellowship Ministries so your ordination is recognized across denominations.
- Being an Elder/Minister is a privilege and responsibility - The key element is being part of a team which needs the ability to listen and follow the will of God.

Certificate of Ordination

This is to certify that after a satisfactory statement of his Christian experience, his call to the ministry, and his views of Bible doctrine,

_____ was publicly ordained to the **GOSPEL MINISTRY**
on the _____ day of _____, 20____, at _____
by the _____ Baptist Church.
The Council assisting in the examination was composed of _____
messengers, representing _____ churches.

THE MAN OF GOD
"I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom: Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longuffering and doctrine,"
Second Timothy 4:1, 2

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."
First Peter 5:2-4

Minister of the Church _____
Clerk of the Church _____

Minister of the Church _____
Clerk of the Church _____

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Elders in the Old Testament

- Exodus 3:16 and 18:12
 - ✓ The Elders spoke for & acted on behalf of the people
- Numbers 11:16-25
 - ✓ God directs 70 Elders to be chosen to work with Moses.
 - ✓ To do a job/meet a need; a group dependent on God and equipped by God for the task.
- As Israelites settled in Palestine each city had its body of Elders in admin. & judicial functions (Deuteronomy 25:5-10)
- As well as local Elders there was a national body the “Elders of Israel” which became the Sanhedrin.
- Other refs: Deuteronomy 19:12, Joshua 8:10 & 2Samuel 5:3

The Early Church had Elders ...

- Probably based on models in Judaism
 - ✓ Unlike Jewish Elders, Church Elders did not become secular rulers but administrators of local churches
- Main references to Elders are in Acts and the 'Pastoral Epistles' (1 Timothy & Titus)
- NT does not say where Elders came from



The Modern Church

Reforming Mindset: Apostolic

We can define the apostolic ministry as 'influencing and transforming the world we are in – locally, regionally or globally – with the values of Heaven'.

Encounter Atmosphere: Prophetic

We can define the prophetic ministry as 'connecting people to the Presence of God so they see, hear and feel Him for themselves'.



Outreach Focus: Evangelistic

We can define the evangelistic ministry as 'revealing King Jesus to those who don't know Him, through words, works and wonders'.

Shepherding Heart: Pastoral

We can define the pastoral ministry as 'cultivating Kingdom character and community through coaching, counseling, and care'.

Training Environment: Teaching

We can define the teaching ministry as 'communicating biblical truth through teaching and training to see transformation'.

What We Are Looking For!

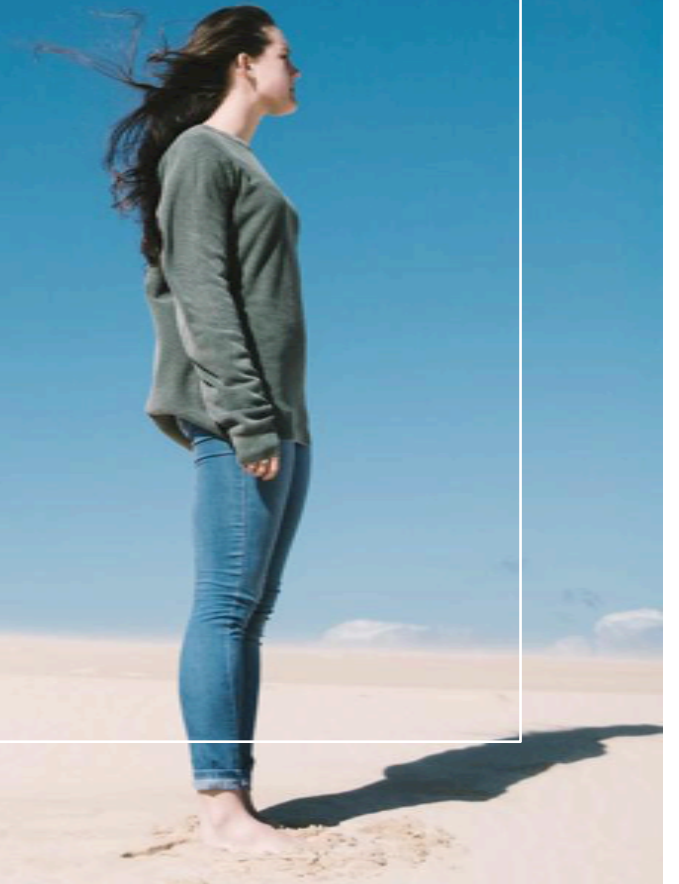
Eternal Life Fellowship, we look for Elders and Ministers to be “FAT”:

1. Faithful
2. Accountable &
3. Trainable & Teachable

New Ministers are Asked...

15

- Do they love God and one another?
- Do they have a heart to make disciples?
- Do they have FAITH?
 - F: Fruitful
 - A: Available
 - I: Integrity
 - T: Teachable/Trainable
 - H: Humble & Submissive
- Do they model a Christian walk?



Ministry Authority

- The ultimate authority over the credential is the Eternal Life Fellowship Ministries, along with the Board of Ministerial Standards (BOMS).
- Those credentialed in the Eternal Life Fellowship Ministries have been approved by a local fellowship church, a district council (DBOMS) and the National BOMS.
- An Eternal Life Fellowship Ministries credential is a non-denominational credential and is granted to candidates “in trust.”
- This means the candidate is accountable to the Eternal Life Fellowship Ministries through the local church and the credential does not belong to the individual.
- Elders & Ministers serve at the pleasure of the Servant Leader.

Spiritual Leadership



Two Key Elements:

1. Leadership by the Spirit – By ordination we request that Elders are empowered by the Holy Spirit to undertake ministry in the church.
2. Leadership of the Spirit – Elders are also expected to lead the mission of their local church by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Servant Leadership

- Elders need to be people of prayer, who through Bible study are able to discern God's will for them.
- Elders need to be servants of the church.
- We all sit at the feet of Jesus.
- Serve at the Pleasure of the Servant Leader.



Scope of Ministry

Scripture clearly teaches that each believer has been given a grace-gift(s) in order to serve our Lord and His Church. (Ephesians 4)

- ✓ Some believers have received the call of God upon their lives for ministry and have been given a grace-gift(s) for the task of preparing God's people to carry out the works of the ministry which builds up the body of Christ



Scope of Ministry

It is those in vocational ministry whom God Himself has chosen and appointed, whom the local church affirms, and who are subsequently recognized by the Eternal Life Fellowship Ministries by the act of the pouring of oil & the laying on of hands.

(Acts 13:3, 1 Timothy 4:14 & II Timothy 1:6)

Rationale & Benefits of Credentialing

The rationale for and benefits of credentialing are the following:

- A. Recognition of God's calling to and gifting for vocational ministry,
- B. Interdependency between the local church, the district and the national office, to ensure a commitment to and alignment of beliefs (Statement of Faith) and ethos,
- C. Accountability to the local church and to the denomination, both doctrinally and morally,
- D. Development educationally and personally, and
- E. Confirmed legal status by the IRS via ELFGN

Credentialing Categories

- A. License:** (This is issued conditionally) Authorizes you to operate in your gift under the Eternal Life Fellowship Ministries & Global Network banner. Sponsored by your local church.
- B. Ordination:** (This is issued for life) Acknowledges and recognizes God's calling you to operate your gift in ministry.
- C. Commission:** (This is issued conditionally and requires Discipleship in the ELFGN). Approves you to fully operate (independently) with the full support and covering of Eternal Life Fellowship Ministries & Global Network banner.

Purpose of Credentialing

The purpose of a ministerial credential is to:

1. **Affirm** God's call upon a person's life
2. **Verify** that this person meets the qualifications and standards for ministry in the ELFGN
3. **Approve** this person for ministerial service under the auspices of the ELFGN
4. **Provide** legal status in the exercise of that person's ministry

Credentialing Types

Ministry License (Vocational)

Ministry License (Non-Vocational)

Certificate of Ordination (Vocational)

Certificate of Ordination (Non-Vocational)

Certificate of Lay Ministry

Commissioning Orders

Ordination

- Is the rite by which people whom God has called to be confirmed by the church and are set apart by prayer, the pouring of oil and the laying of the hands.
- It is the recognition of a particular calling from God and its acceptances by an individual.
- Ordination gives full authorization to perform duties and exercise the prerogatives of the local church.



Your Place in Ministry

- In God's big church there is room for many different kinds of people doing many different kinds of ministry.
- You will be able to take personality profiles, spiritual gift inventories, a *Ministry Strengths and Gifts Survey*, and other tools to guide you in your search for the perfect ministerial fit for you.

Maintain A Healthy Ministry

INTEGRITY

**JUST
BE
REAL!**

TRANSPARENCY

**JUST
BE
HUMAN!**

VULNERABILITY

**JUST
BE
BROKEN!**

ACCOUNTABILITY

**JUST
BE
ACCOUNTABLE!**





Closing Thought

One might be able to lead a church by projecting an image that isn't true to you or the life you live. Some may convince people to follow an illusion. I'm sure there are successful (and unsuccessful) ministers who are able to make this work. But the illusion will one day crumble and the facade will fail and one will be left naked and ashamed.

I am here as your Servant Leader to train, teach and guide you for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edification of God through Christ Your only role is to point followers to Christ for the unity of the church, for the knowledge of the Son of man for the fullness of our faith! (Ephesians Chapter Four)

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QUESTIONS

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