

Qualifications:

Committed to Christ

- Spirituality, must have a private dimension before he can have a public influence.
- Total commitment to the congregation
- As a Christian leader, you cannot hope to have the power to lead your people in God's way unless you make a commitment to daily devotions.
- Time commitment

What Jesus taught He was.

Qualifications:

- Support church doctrine
- Maintain strong family relationships
- Be sexually pure
In love with your spouse.
Cautious of counseling the opposite sex, especially on intimate matters.
Being spiritually strong.
- Overcome racial/tribal prejudice
- Be an exemplary giver
- Admit your mistakes
With God, the only "unpardonable sin" is the unconfessed sin.
- Leader of members

Qualifications:

- Love your members
Do not lose sight of what they can become by God's grace.
- Sick people are not out of place in a hospital. It is where they get well.
- Love people. Unloving people are not out of place in the church. It is where they learn to love.
- Unite your members
- Consult your members
- Follow your leaders
- Be an enabler of members



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Purpose of ordination

It was an acknowledged form of designation to an appointed office and a recognition of one's authority in that office.

Three categories of ordained officers:

1. The gospel minister:
were called to preach, teach, administer the ordinances and provide pastoral care for church members.
2. The elders:
were called to lead and minister to local congregations, performing pastoral functions as well.
3. The deacons:
were called to care for the physical needs of the church and its members.

What is Ordination?

Ordination is a public recognition of:

- God's call of the individual to this specific ministry.
- God's enabling the person for this ministry by providing the spiritual gifts needed.
- *The congregation's recognition and approval of God's call and an expression of its willingness to follow the individual's leadership.*

Accepting ordination means that, in a very special sense, you are no longer your own, but God's.

Ordination legitimatizes the servant leadership.

The ceremony of ordination

Prerequisites of ordination:

- A call by God.
- Election by a local church.
- Self-examination by the ordinand. Commitment to Christ and His church should be renewed.
- Ordination should occur soon after elders are elected.
- Ordination gives new elders the full support of the church and publicly invites the Holy Spirit to bless their leadership.



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- Performed by an ordained minister.
- Ordained ministers and elders in the congregation may assist.

Authority granted

Ordination is meant to be permanent:

- ❖ Elder's are recognized for their entire life.

Recognized when:

- ❖ Elected in the same position either in the same or another church.
- ❖ Elected as Deacon.

Authority of the Elder:

- May officiate at the communion service. May lead out in a funeral service.
- May request the conference/mission to arrange for the rite of baptism.

Elders may not:

- Perform a marriage service.

Loss of ordination:

- By apostasy or improper behavior.

Limited Authority

- They function as elders as long as the church elects them to the office.
- Only the local church can elect elders. Conferences/missions cannot.
- Normally, the local church pastor ordains them.
- They are to be ordained in the presence of the local congregation they will serve.
- Their ordination authorizes them to serve only in the church that elects them.
- They may serve in more than one church if other churches elect them.