**BIBLE REQUIREMENTS FOR MINISTERS**

**(Ambassador College handout)**

**A. Appellations of Ministers**

1. Minister. The word used most in Greek is Strong's #1249, *diakonos* (the same word is translated "deacon" elsewhere). It means an attendant, a waiter at table or in other menial duties. The root word means to run errands.

2. Ambassador for Christ (II Cor. 5:20).

3. Fishers for men (Matt. 4:19; Mark 1:17).

4. Shepherd (Matt. 9:36; Matt. 10:6).

5. Laborer (I Thess. 3:2; Phil. 2:25; I Cor. 3:9).

6. Overseer (Acts 20:28; the same word is elsewhere translated "bishop").

7. Soldier of Christ (Phil. 2:25; II Tim. 2:3).

8. Teacher (I Cor. 4:17; Acts 5:42; I Tim. 4:11; I Tim. 6:2; II Tim. 2:2, 24, 25).

9. Preacher.

a. Strong's #2097--announce good news. (Acts 16:10)

b. Strong's #2783--herald, as a public crier. (Acts 10:42)

10. Watchman (Ezek. 33; Jer. 6:17).

11. Witness (Acts 1:8; Acts 5:32).

12. Messenger (Mal. 2:7).

**B. Qualifications for Ministers**

1. Blameless (II Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6,7).

2. Husband of one wife (I Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6).

3. Vigilant II Tim. 3:2).

4. Sober (I Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8).

5. Of good behavior (I Tim. 3:2).

6. Given to hospitality (I Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8).

7. Apt to teach (I Tim. 3:2; II Tim. 2:24).

8. Not given to wine (I Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7).

9. No striker (I Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7).

10. Not greedy of filthy lucre (I Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7).

11. Patient (I Tim. 3:3; II Tim. 2:24).

12. Not a brawler (I Tim. 3:3).

13. Not covetous (I Tim. 3: 3)

14. Rules well his own house (I Tim. 3:4).

15. Has his children in subjection with all gravity (I Tim. 3: 4; Titus 1: 6).

16. Not a novice (I Tim. 3:6).

17. Of good report among unconverted (I Tim. 3:7).

18. Not self-willed (Titus 1:7).

19. Not soon angry (Titus 1:7).

20. Lover of good men (Titus 1:8).

21. Just (Titus 1:8).

22. Holy (Titus 1:8).

23. Temperate (Titus 1: 8).

24. Hold fast the faithful word (Titus 1:9).

25. Gentle (II Tim. 2:24; Titus 3:2).

26. Must not strive (II Tim. 2:24).

27. Meek (II Tim. 2:25).

**C. How Ministers Receive Office**

1. Chosen by God, ordained, sent to bring forth fruit (John 15:16).

2. God gives pastors to feed people with knowledge and understanding (Jer. 3:15).

3. God gives various offices, some apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers (Eph. 4:11).

4. Holy Spirit reveals who is to be ordained after fasting, prayer, laying on of hands (Acts 13:2, 3).

5. Appointed, sent two by two as lambs among wolves (Luke 10: 1-3).

6. Ordain elders in every city (Titus 1:5).

**D. Conduct and Attitude of Ministers**

1. Be you clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord (Isa. 52:11).

2. Prepare your heart to seek the law, to do it, and to teach it (Ezra 7:10).

3. Don't drink wine or strong drink when working (Lev. 10:9).

4. Be wise as serpents, harmless as doves (Matt. 10:16).

5. Serve one another (Matt. 20:26-28).

6. Be willing to give your life for the sheep (John 10:11).

7. Be completely impartial (I Tim. 5:21).

8. Speak the things which become sound doctrine (Titus 2: 1)

9. Be gentle as a nurse cherishing children (I Thess. 2:7-12; II Tim. 2:24; Titus 3:2).

10. Give no offense in anything (II Cor. 6:3-10).

11. Be a good example (Titus 2:7, 8; I Tim. 4:12-16).

12. Preach willingly (I Cor. 9:16-17).

13. Gladly spend and be spent for the Work (II Cor. 12:15).

**E. Responsibilities and Duties**

1. Take heed to the ministry, fulfill it (Col. 4:17).

2. Study, meditate upon God's Word (Josh. 1:7-9; II Tim. 2:15).

3. Give self continually to prayer and ministry Acts 6:4).

4. Go, preach, teach, heal, cast out demons, baptize (Matt. 10:5-8; Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 3:14, 15; Mark 6:7-13; Luke 9:1-6; Luke 10:1-9).

5. Persuade men (Gal. 1:10).

6. Feed the sheep (John 21:15-17; Acts 20:28; I pet. 5:2,3)

7. Preach the word, reprove, exhort (II Tim. 4:2).

8. Teach the difference between holy and profane (Ezek. 44: 23).

9. Speak whether they will hear or not (Ezek. 2:7; Ezek. 3:27).

10. Establish and comfort the brethren (I Thess. 3:2).

11. Perfecting of the saints (Eph. 4:11, 12; Col. 1:28).

12. Charge people to trust the living God and do good works (I Tim. 6: 14-19).

13. Set things in order, ordain elders (Titus 1:5; II Tim. 2:2).

14. Bind and release as revealed by God (Matt. 18:18; John 20:23).

15. Rule over the brethren (Heb. 13:7, 17).

**F. Instructions to Ministers**

1. Study to show yourself approved to God (II Tim. 2:15).

2. Stir up the gift of God (II Tim. 1:6-14); I Tim. 4:14).

3. Endure hardness as good soldier of Christ (II Tim. 2: 3).

4. Be servant to one another (Matt. 20:26-28).

5. Preach the word (II Tim. 4:2).

6. Go, preach, heal, etc. (Matt. 10:7, 8).

7. Go two by two (Luke 10:1).

8. Go not house to house (Luke 10:7).

9. Be wise as serpents, harmless as doves (Matt. 10:16).

10. Observe these things, keep yourself pure (I Tim. 5:21, 22).

11. Put brethren in remembrance of these things (I Tim. 4:6).

12. Treat all respectfully (I Tim. 5:1-3).

13. Watch in all things (II Tim. 4:5).

14. Take stumbling block out of way of people (Isa. 57:14).

15. Cry aloud, spare not, show my people their sins (Isa. 58:1).

16. Keep not silent, give God no rest (Isa. 62:6, 7).

17. Be a good example (Titus 2:7, 8; I Tim. 4:12-16).

18. Continue in these things, be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works (II Tim. 3:14-17).