

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).

Bible Requirements for Ministers

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).