

ALLCHRISTIANS' FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

BASIC CONDITIONS FOR MINISTERIAL ORDINATIONS

DEACON

- a) As in Acts 6:1-6 they must be able to serve the ministers and the entire congregation.
- b) They must be able to give constructive advice to the Pastor(s) without insisting on the acceptance of their opinion.
- c) To participate in Leadership Development Program of the Ministry
- d) They must be able to give sound advice to the members of the congregation and teach the congregation through their live style.
- e) They must be able to teach lessons whenever they are called to do so and they themselves must be teachable.
- f) They must be able to take care of a given section of the church life. For example, a deacon may be required to take responsibility over an Activity Group and to collaborate with the Group leader to ensure effectiveness and success in their activities.
- g) They must be fully involved in all programmes of the church and particularly, the prayer life of the church.
- h) They must be able to show examples in regular Church attendance and to ensure that church programmes are concluded with all things taken care of before leaving the church.
- i) They must be able to look after the business and financial needs of the Church.

DEACONESS

Romans 16:1, "*I command unto you Phoebe our sister, which is a servant (deaconess)*". Romans 16:3, Priscilla likely was a deaconess, too. She was mentioned also in Acts 18. In addition to the responsibilities and duties mentioned above, a Deaconess must be person of the following qualities :

- a) I Tim. 3:11, not young, immature and silly.
- b) They must not be a slanderer, not busybodies or gossips.
- c) They must ensure that the church is constantly kept clean.
- d) They must be capable of sound judgement and good advice.
- e) They must be able to teach children the truths of the Scriptures.
- f) They must possess ability to give sound advice to women and girls of the church.
- g) They must be faithful in all things and able to demonstrate faith, works and love.

ELDER

Elders are the spiritual leaders in the Church of Jesus Christ. In rank they are above the deacons but below the Pastor of the church. They are generally ordained in the ministry by the laying-on of hands. Acts 14:23, *“And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.”* Titus 1:5, *“... and appoint^[a] elders in every town, as I directed you.”* Ordinations are for lifelong, but appointments for specific responsibilities are based on merits and are not lifelong in ACFL. However, ordinations are based on the following qualifications:

QUALIFICATIONS

Blameless, Titus 1:6 – a man of honest reputation, good character and standing.
The husband of one wife, Titus 1:6 – having only been married once.

- a) Faithful children, obedient and under control, Titus 1:6. This is the test. If one rules one’s household well, then he can govern a church.
- b) Not self-willed, Titus 1:7 – of a meek and quiet spirit. He is not a dictator.
- c) Not soon angry, Titus 1:7 – patient. There will be much that is trying, but anger and temper have no place him.
- d) Not given to wine, Titus 1:7. He must not be a drunkard not a waster of money.
- e) No striker, Titus 1:7 – satisfied, not murmuring and complaining.
- f) Not given to filthy earnings, I Tim 1:7, lest church funds become a snare to him.
- g) A lover of hospitality, Titus 1:8, manifesting love to fellow believers and strangers.
- h) Lover of good, Titus 1:8, lover of all that is good, clean, wholesome and upright.

BASIC DUTIES OF ALL ORDAINED LEADERS

- a) They are charged with the spiritual activities of the church.
- b) To attend church regularly and take an interest in all departments.
- c) To collaborate with Activity Group leaders in all areas of their duties.
- d) To participate in Leadership Development Program of the Ministry
- e) To gain teaching experience in Home Bible Study meetings.