

THE ORDINATION OF MINISTERS

Ordination Council

The ordination council should be composed of ministers and deacons from various churches that convenes for the purpose of ordaining a person to the gospel ministry. It should convene before the actual ordination service. The local church can create the ordination council by invitation or make use of a council provided by its association of churches.

Order of Business of Ordination Council

The election of officers:

- a moderator to preside,
- a questioner to examine the candidate,
- a secretary to record the actions of the council.

Questioning of the candidate—the moderator should ask the candidate to take a chair in front of the ordaining council, where he/she will be examined concerning his/her qualifications for the ministry. The questioning, which should last between 30 and 45 minutes, is led by the person elected to examine the candidate. Among the questions that should be asked are:

- Tell of your conversion experience.
- Relate your call to the ministry.
- Share what you believe about the Bible.
- Relate your understanding of God.
- Tell how a person can be saved.
- What is a New Testament church?
- What are the ordinances of the church?
- What is their significance?
- What is the mission of the church?
- Tell of someone you have led to faith in Christ.
- Tell of your involvement in Christian ministry through the local church.
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- What is your belief about and practice of Christian Stewardship?
- What do you believe about heaven?
- What do you believe about hell?
- What do you believe about the second coming of Christ?
- If this council should choose not to ordain you, what would you do?

The floor is then opened for questions from any member of the ordination council.

If the council is satisfied with the candidate's responses, a motion to recommend ordination to the church should be made and voted.

This action should be recorded by the secretary and a certificate of ordination signed by each member of the ordination council.