

**Zion Assembly Church of God
Minister Endorsement Form**

Office of the Presiding Bishop
P.O. Box 2398
Cleveland, TN 37323-2398

CHURCH AND PASTOR ENDORSEMENT

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that Zion Assembly Church of God located at _____
_____ has duly considered the ability, qualifications, and calling of our
esteemed Brother/Sister of Street/PO Box _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____, who is a faithful member at this
church. We fully believe him/her to be a suitable person for the ministry. After a careful and prayerful
examination, we hereby recommend _____ to fill the office of
_____ (bishop, deacon, evangelist) in Zion Assembly Church of God.

This done in church conference, held the _____ day of _____ 20____.

If recommendation is for bishop or deacon, please answer the following questions:

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Do you consider him to be qualified and blameless?..... | Yes | No |
| 2. Is he the husband of one wife?..... | Yes | No |
| 3. Does he rule well his own household?..... | Yes | No |
| 4. Are his children well-behaved?..... | Yes | No |
| 5. Is his wife a faithful woman?..... | Yes | No |
| 6. Do you consider him experienced (not a novice)?..... | Yes | No |
| 7. Does he have a good report from the people outside the church from the
standpoint of business honesty?..... | Yes | No |
| 8. Is he prompt in attendance of duties at home and in religious service?..... | Yes | No |

Pastor Signature: _____

Clerk Signature: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: In recommending someone for the ministry, the church should exercise special care. The office of deacon is an important one; the moral qualifications are nearly the same as those of a bishop (see Acts 6.8; I Tim. 3; Ti.1). This endorsement form should be filled out by order of the church and signed by the clerk and the pastor (or overseer) and mailed promptly to the office of the Presiding Bishop. The Presbytery will then proceed with the examination of the candidate.

Candidate Recommended by the Overseer of _____

Overseer Signature _____

Zion Assembly Church of God

Office of the Presiding Bishop
PO Box 2398
Cleveland, TN 37323-2398

Minister's Examination

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Examination Date _____

For Office Use Only

Approval Date _____

Credentials Issued _____

Remarks _____

Instructions

(Read carefully before beginning the Examination)

To be called into the ministry is indeed a “high calling.” The minister holds an exalted and responsible station in this life. In order to fill his or her position with honor and good effect, the minister should study diligently the knowledge and wisdom found in the Holy Scriptures in order that he or she may be “approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Tim. 3.15). Above all, the minister should seek to be filled and empowered with the gifts and graces of the Holy Spirit. The ministerial candidate should be thoroughly acquainted with the teachings and practices of the church as outlined by the General Assembly before he/she is licensed and/or ordained (Acts 15.22-30; 16.3-5; 1 Cor. 1.10; 1 Thess. 2.14; Phil. 3.16; Heb. 13.7, 17).

The following Scriptures should be read and studied carefully before the candidate proceeds to answer the examination questions: Mt. 10.16; Jas. 1.5; 3.13, 17; 1 Pet. 5.1-10; 1 Thess. 5.12-15; 1 Tim. 3.1-16; 4.12; Titus 1.5-9; 2.7,8; 3.9; Heb. 13.5, 7, 9, 17; 2 Tim. 2.23-26; 3.10-17; Acts 6.1-7; Rom. 15.1-6; 2 Cor. 13.11; Eph. 4.31, 32; Phil. 1.27; 2.1-13; Rev. 22.17-21.

The office of bishop is the highest rank of the ministry. The qualifications listed by the apostle Paul show the sacredness and importance of the office. One entering it should do so, therefore, with fear and humility before Christ, who is the Chief Shepherd and Bishop of our souls. The holder of this sacred office should seek always to be filled with the Spirit, and to walk circumspectly before God and man.

The office of deacon is highly exalted in the Scriptures; its importance may be seen in its function and purpose in the New Testament church. Deacons are indispensable “helps” in assisting the bishops and serving the purposes of the church. With the bishops, they form the eldership of the church, offering guidance and valuable service to the flock of God, particularly regarding the temporal needs and the business aspects of the church. The moral qualifications of deacons are therefore equal to that of bishops, for they assist the bishops in overseeing the house of God.

The office of evangelist is no less important than that of bishop and deacon, though the gift and function are different. Evangelists serve primarily to proclaim the Gospel, seek for the salvation of the lost, build up the faith of the saints, and administer physical and spiritual healing; whereas bishops govern and rule and teach. But with the bishops, evangelists are given “for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Eph. 4.11-16).

In proceeding with this examination, the candidate should note every question carefully and write the answer plainly (using pen or pencil). When the question is direct, answer it with a simple “yes” or “no.” If any explanation is necessary, write it in the space provided at the end of the examination under the heading of “Remarks.” Be as thorough as possible in order to avoid delay of your certification, or any further investigation into your case. In writing your essay on the subject, “My Understanding and Vision of the Ministry,” take time to pray and to organize your thoughts before you write. Be as clear and concise as possible. When you have completed the examination, read over your answers and check for any mistakes.

When completed, the examination certificate should be mailed to the regional or state overseer or sent directly to the office of the Presiding Bishop. As you await your evaluation, make special and wise preparations to enter your particular office of ministry with honor and dignity.

You may rest assured that you have the love, sympathy, and respect of those in charge of your examination, and you will be given just and gracious consideration.

Minister's Examination

NOTE: Please write (print) answers to these questions with your own hand. If any question does not apply to you, note it with an NA (not applicable) to show that you have read it.

1. What is your full name? _____
2. Home address? _____
3. Telephone number? _____ 4. Email Address? _____
5. Date of Birth? _____ 6. Male or Female? _____
7. Race or Ethnic Background? _____ 8. Nationality? _____
9. Married or Single? _____
10. Companion's Name? _____
11. Are you happily married?..... **Yes** **No**
 (If No, explain in the space provided at the end of this examination.)
12. Do you agree with Zion Assembly Church of God's
 interpretation of marriage—that death alone dissolves the holy union?..... **Yes** **No**
13. Do you have children?..... **Yes** **No**
14. List their names and ages: _____
15. How many are at home? _____
16. Is your wife (husband) a Christian? **Yes** **No**
17. Is she/he a member of Zion Assembly Church of God?..... **Yes** **No**
18. Has she/he been sanctified?..... **Yes** **No**
19. Has she/he been Baptized with the Holy Ghost? **Yes** **No**
20. If the answer is no, is she/he seeking for these deeper experiences? **Yes** **No**
21. If baptized with the Spirit, did she/he speak in other tongues as the evidence?..... **Yes** **No**
22. How many of your children are converted? _____
23. How many of your children are members of the church? _____
24. Are the children living at home with you well-behaved?..... **Yes** **No**
 (If not, explain in the space provided at the end of the examination)
25. Have you taught them to respect the house of God, especially during worship services?..... **Yes** **No**
26. Do you observe family worship regularly at home?..... **Yes** **No**
27. Do your children take part with you in worship?..... **Yes** **No**
28. When were you converted? _____
29. Were you sanctified subsequent to conversion?..... **Yes** **No**
30. When were you baptized with the Holy Ghost? _____
31. Did you speak in tongues as the Spirit gave utterance?..... **Yes** **No**
32. Have you been baptized in water by immersion in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?..... **Yes** **No**
33. When (date)? _____
34. What church or minister baptized you? _____
35. Do you participate at the times appointed in the Lord's Supper?..... **Yes** **No**
36. Do you participate in Feet Washing services?..... **Yes** **No**
37. Do you agree with the teachings of Zion Assembly Church of God as outlined by the
 General Assembly in its *Abstract of Faith*..... **Yes** **No**

38. Is there any teaching or principle that you question?..... **Yes** **No**
39. If so, which? _____
40. Are you in agreement with the government, polity, and discipline of Zion Assembly Church of God? **Yes** **No**
 (If no, explain in the space provided at the end of this examination).
41. Education: What Grade? _____ High School Graduate?..... **Yes** **No**
 College?..... **Yes** **No**
 How many years? _____
 Degree? _____
42. Do you study the Bible regularly?..... **Yes** **No**
43. Can you repeat the names of all the books in the Bible from memory?..... **Yes** **No**
44. If not, will you commit yourself to learn them?..... **Yes** **No**
45. Do you have any habits or vices (like tobacco, liquor, or impure speech) that would prevent you from
 being licensed in Zion Assembly Church of God?..... **Yes** **No**
 (If so, please answer in the space provided at the end of this examination.)
46. Are you a member of a secret society or lodge that requires an oath of allegiance? **Yes** **No**
47. Have you ever been a member of a church besides Zion Assembly Church of God?..... **Yes** **No**
48. If so, which one? _____
49. How long since your membership ceased? _____
50. Were you ever ordained or licensed by any other church?..... **Yes** **No**
51. If so, what position did you hold? _____
52. How long have you been preaching? _____
53. How long have you been a member of Zion Assembly Church of God? _____
54. Do you intend to devote most of your time to the ministry of the Word?..... **Yes** **No**
55. Are you willing to engage in secular work if necessary to support your ministry?..... **Yes** **No**
56. Are you honest and conscientious in your secular and religious business dealings?..... **Yes** **No**
57. Do you pay your debts and have a good credit report?..... **Yes** **No**
 (If not, please answer in the space provided at the end of this examination.)
58. Are you a subscriber and regular reader of the *Voice of Zion*?..... **Yes** **No**
59. Can you in good conscience promote all aspects of the church?..... **Yes** **No**
60. Have you acquainted yourself with the business acts of the General Assembly?..... **Yes** **No**
61. Are you willing to submit to the counsel of those who are over you in the Lord?..... **Yes** **No**
62. Will you endeavor to be a good example to the believers?..... **Yes** **No**
63. Are you willing to practice tithing and giving as recommended by the General Assembly?..... **Yes** **No**
64. Do you see the church as revealed in the Old and New Testaments?..... **Yes** **No**
65. Are you fully committed to the call, vision, and commission of Zion Assembly Church of God? **Yes** **No**
66. Has the local church of which you are a member taken definite action in a business session to
 recommend you for the ministry?..... **Yes** **No**
 If so, give date of conference _____.
67. Please circle the rank of ministry for which you are applying: **Bishop** **Deacon** **Evangelist**
68. Give names and addresses of two bishops in Zion Assembly Church of God to whom you can refer for endorsement:

69. Where is your church membership? _____
70. Give name of the pastor: _____
71. Do you feel with certainty that the Lord has called you into the ministry?..... **Yes** **No**
72. Do you have a history of drug abuse that resulted in an arrest?..... **Yes** **No**
 (If yes, please answer in the space provided at the end of this examination.)
73. Have you ever been charged by secular or religious authorities with an offense related to sexual misconduct, including harassment, unwelcomed sexual advancements, public indecency [indecent exposure], production, sale, and/or distribution of pornographic materials, abuse of power [position or role] for sexual purposes?..... **Yes** **No**
 (If yes, please answer in the space provided at the end of this examination.)
74. Have you ever been charged, arrested or convicted of a felony; including murder or any act of violence, theft, domestic abuse, sexual assault [e.g., rape], professional misconduct related to sexual behavior, sexual misconduct related to a minor, sexual misconduct related to a secular workplace, prostitution, illicit sexual behavior of any kind? **Yes** **No**
 (If yes, please answer in the space provided at the end of this examination.)
75. Have you ever been subjected to an ecclesiastical [church or religious] disciplinary council?..... **Yes** **No**
 (If yes, please answer in the space provided at the end of this examination.)
76. Has any disciplinary action ever been taken against you by a licensing board, professional association, or educational institution?..... **Yes** **No**
 (If yes, please answer in the space provided at the end of this examination.)
77. To conclude your examination, write in the space provided on the last page of this examination form a 200-to-300-word paragraph on the subject, "My Understanding and Vision of the Ministry."

I hereby humbly and sincerely certify that I have prayerfully considered the above questions and have answered them honestly and conscientiously to the best of my knowledge and ability.

Name _____

Date _____

