

# Lifecentre Credential & Ordination Process

MINISTRY RESOURCE

Our mission is rooted in how we are growing together with Jesus to make a difference in our city.



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For credential purposes, Lifecentre is honoured to be in partnership with **Ministers Network Canada**, an Apostolic and Prophetic Network of Committed, Consecrated, and Connected leaders working together to advance, expand, and influence the Kingdom of God in Canada and the nations of the world.

*ministersnetwork.ca*



## 1.0 | **Welcome**



## 1.0 | **Welcome**

We desire to consistently be growing together with Jesus to make a difference in our city in raising up and sending out ministers of the Gospel. We believe it takes the entire church, to be His church for the city.

This mandate requires:

Seeing Lifecentre in unique ministry environments and as many people connected in formative discipleship during the week as on Sundays.

To fulfill this mandate, the Scriptural truths held in tension are found in 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 and Ephesians 4:11-12

First, as a follower of Jesus, one must become a minister of reconciliation. In Christ, we are all ministers. The adventure of each life is to figure out how not if, they are called as a minister.

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 (ESV)*

Secondly, there are followers of Christ who hold five-fold roles in a local church. These roles are Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherds (Pastors) and Teacher. These roles are not only for reconciliation but are called by God, to equip followers of Jesus, to be effective in how they minister.

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-12 (ESV)

### **Our Process for All Credential Recommendations**

The following steps are the process to receive a Ministerial Recommendation with our goal to articulate what it takes to receive a Pastoral recommendation.

Being an Ephesians 4:11-12 minister of the Gospel is a distinct calling and being ordained into the five-fold ministry must be confirmed both by the Eldership (Pastors) and the local church community.

Lifecentre takes a Mark 12:30-31 approach in initiating the process of one receiving a Ministerial Recommendation from Lifecentre.

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.



## Heart

Before completing the application for Ministerial License with Ministers Network Canada, your life must demonstrate a recognizable call from God. This call must be evident from faithful and fruitful serving at Lifecentre. It is also affirmed by the Pastoral Leadership at Lifecentre.

## Soul

You must complete Freedom Ministry at Lifecentre or an equivalent to freedom ministry process. You must be committed to living a Christ-filled life of service by embracing spiritual disciplines and engaging your spiritual gifts.

## Mind

Completion of three years of Bible School (or equivalent completed ministry accreditation). You must be able to pass a robust theology assessment identifying not only the Statement of Fundamental Essentials and Truths but how to engage these beliefs (apologetics) in a lost and broken world.

## Strength

You must also actively be a member at Lifecentre for consideration by serving in a leadership capacity at Lifecentre. Examples would be LifeGroup Leader, Ministry Team Leader, and Bible School Teacher. You must also display evident Christ-like character in your life and relationships by being fully engaged in an ongoing and active discipleship process both for your life, and lived out in relationships at Lifecentre.

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## 2.0 | Ministerial Recommendations



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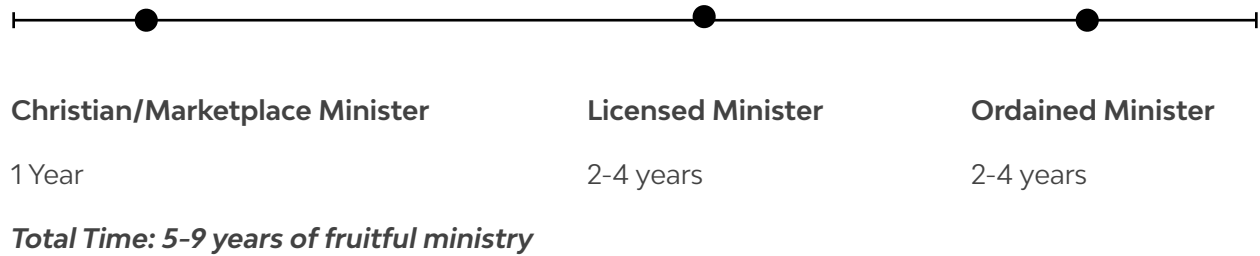
### 2.1 | Licensed Minister (Pastor)

Licensing is issued to a person with a recognized call of God on their life and growing in a ministry capacity. They should be functioning in some type of leadership capacity and moving toward vocational ministry. Designation of Pastor is assigned. This is a 2-4 year step where the candidate must remain in good standing in all areas.

### 2.2 | Ordained Minister (Reverend)

For those who have the charge of a church, are in vocational ministry (or bi-vocational), and have as their primary role the representation of the Gospel and the Christian Faith. Designation of Reverend/Pastor is assigned along with the opportunity to apply for the designation to perform marriages in the Province of Ontario and/or should be a base requirement for a position in full-time Ministry.

#### Timeline





## 3.0 | Credential Recommendation Requirements





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The following criteria are established before recommendations will be considered:

A recommendation from a Lifecentre Pastor for **Christian/Marketplace Minister** requires:

- Completion of Bible School
- Actively serving as a leader at Lifecentre
- Before applying for Licensed Minister designation, the candidate must hold this designation, in good standing, for twelve months.

A recommendation from a Lifecentre Pastor for **Licensed Minister** requires:

- Completion of Bible School
- Serve 4,000 hours at Lifecentre (Two years 40 hrs full time or 4 years 20 hrs part-time)
- Complete a theology assessment
- Pass a Pastoral Panel Review
- Before applying for the Ordained Minister designation, the candidate must hold this designation, in good standing, for 2-4 years based on fruitful ministry served and observed.

A recommendation from a Lifecentre Pastor for **Ordained Minister** requires:

- Completion of Bible School
- Serve 4,000 hours at Lifecentre (Two years 40 hrs full time or 4 years 20 hrs part-time)
- Complete a theology assessment
- Pass a Pastoral Panel Review
- Functioning in a paid full-time ministry position (Recognized church or para-church ministry)
- Hold, in good standing (faithful serving, leadership, fruitful ministry assignments), Licensed Minister credential for two to four years based on fruitful ministry served and observed.



## 4.0 | Ordination Interview



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Lifecentre is one church in many locations. Our mission is growing together With Jesus, to make a difference in our city. As a vision, we desire to see a movement of people from all generations, living with conviction about Jesus that transforms our schools, workplaces, communities and city.

### **Our values**

These values will serve and shape as the foundation for spiritual growth in Christ.

#### **Jesus-focused**

Jesus is our focus. Our constant compass. We are always changing. He is perfect, alone remaining unchanged.

#### **Expectant**

We trust the Holy Spirit is moving, therefore our posture is worship. Whether with song, service, or measured in taking a step we engage with hungry, humble, and holy hearts expecting the Holy Spirit is moving.

#### **Serving**

We serve God by serving others wholeheartedly. Our service positions us to best see others. We care about people first before we think about what they can offer. We endeavour to look for the best in each other.

#### **Generosity**

We give generously with joy. Our generosity is a reflection of our love. Never a percentage, or a duty, but a delight. We start where others stop. Generosity changes lives - ours and those we are a blessing.

#### **Loving**

Jesus' love never fails. Our love for others, therefore, isn't negotiable. Without love, we are just making noise. When we fall short, we are trusting in the never-failing love of Jesus to make up the gap.

#### **Equipping**

We grow people who make a difference by inviting everyone to be involved in ministry because every believer in Jesus is a builder. It takes the whole church, to be His church for our city.

#### **Whole-hearted**

All of me, more of Jesus. We bring our everything. We set lofty goals. We try and then try again. Jesus sets us free from the traps of perfectionism and comparison. We bring our best, but He is always greater.

#### **Urgency**

People need Jesus today. We do things with a sense of urgency because everyday people live, leave, and die without knowing Jesus. Living lost one more day, is a day too many.

#### **Character-First**

Character comes before gifting. Our character isn't value-neutral. How we live, love, and leadership matters. Gifting is good. Purpose has its place. But Christ-like character always stands above.



Lifecentre believes God uses events, people, and circumstances to develop a leader, one called to equip the saints for the work of ministry as an apostle, prophet, evangelist, shepherd or teacher.

Our aim as a minister is to be more like Jesus. We embrace the Holy Spirit has given us natural abilities, acquired skills, and spirituals gifts which we are called to steward wisely, in a local body, as we equip the church Jesus is building. Therefore our primary calling and identity are to follow Jesus ourselves. A secondary calling would be how all of the above is formed in us, then expressed faithfully through us in alignment with God's Spirit and God's Word.

If you wholeheartedly are in agreement, let's get started.



## 4.1 | Ordination Interview

### Opening Question (1 Question)

1. Have all the fulfillments of applying for Ordination been completed as outlined in 3.0?
2. Is there anything from your past, or occurring presently that if revealed would disqualify, embarrass, or create an issue with you being in an ordained position in ministry?

Yes

No

If yes, (please explain):



#### 4.2 | Theology Proper Questions (20 Questions)

Circle the letters of the statements you believe to be correct. There may be more than one correct statement.

##### **1. THE HOLY SCRIPTURES (The Bible as we know it today was translated from ancient Hebrew and Greek manuscripts).**

- A. The original Hebrew and Greek manuscripts are the authoritative, infallible, inerrant, inspired Word of God.
- B. Throughout the centuries men have translated the Bible and these translations reflect the Scriptures with various degrees of accuracy.
- C. People prophesy today. Their prophecies are equal to the Bible. Some parts of the Bible are more inspired than others.
- D. Some parts of the Bible are more inspired than others.

##### **2. THE GODHEAD**

- A. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three separate Gods.
- B. God the Father created Jesus.
- C. There is one True God who exists in three separate and different persons, namely, The Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- D. There is one God who eternally exists in the persons of the Holy Trinity.
- E. Only Jesus is God – not the Father, not the Holy Spirit.

##### **3. THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**

- A. The Bible calls Jesus both God and man.
- B. Jesus was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
- C. Jesus was a revelation of the Father.
- D. When Jesus died on the cross, He died as a man and not as God. Jesus is the only Saviour for lost mankind.

##### **4. THE HOLY SPIRIT**

- A. The Holy Spirit is not a person, but a substance that comes from God to fill the person who believes in Christ.
- B. The Holy Spirit is a person.
- C. The Holy Spirit is the female part of God.
- D. The Holy Spirit is God.

##### **5. ANGELS**

- A. Angels are created by God.
- B. Satan was an angel.
- C. The Bible commands us to worship angels.
- D. The purpose of angels is to worship God and do His will.



## 6. DEMONS

- A. Demons are fallen angels who work with Satan against the purposes of God.
- B. Some Christians still need to be delivered from demonic possession.
- C. Once saved, Christians are never oppressed demonically.
- D. Sometimes sickness can be caused by demons.
- E. Demons are spirit beings.

## 7. HUMANITY

- A. When Adam and Eve sinned, they and all humanity were no longer the perfect image of God.
- B. Spiritual and physical death is a consequence of Adam and Eve's sin.
- C. People are born with a depraved human nature and are incapable of spiritually reforming themselves.
- D. The human race was created to be the family of God.
- E. One race was meant to be superior to another.

## 8. SALVATION

- A. Salvation occurs when a person truly repents of sin and puts faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.
- B. Salvation is provided by Jesus' atoning sacrifice upon the cross.
- C. Apart from Jesus' sacrifice, there are no other means of salvation.
- D. Salvation has not fully occurred unless a person has spoken in tongues.
- E. The Holy Spirit has nothing to do with our salvation.
- F. The death of Jesus on the cross did not take away our sins it only showed us how much God loved us so that we would seek His forgiveness.

## 9. ASSURANCE

- A. No one knows if they are saved until the Great White Throne Judgment.
- B. Once you are saved you cannot lose your salvation.
- C. Our salvation continues as we remain obedient and keep our faith in Christ.
- D. No one can know for sure that they will go to heaven.
- E. The Holy Spirit gives us assurance in our hearts that we are saved.

## 10. SANCTIFICATION (Being cleansed and pure in God's eyes)

- A. As soon as you ask Jesus to forgive you and accept Him as your Saviour, you are cleansed and pure in God's eyes.
- B. After becoming a Christian, you need to keep coming to God for cleansing from sin.
- C. Once God sanctifies you when you get saved, you will no longer sin.
- D. Sanctification is a work of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life
- E. The Holy Spirit motivates us to become Christ-like in our character and actions.



## **11. BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT (SPEAKING IN TONGUES/EMPOWERMENT)**

- A. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit happens at the same time as you are saved.
- B. When a person is filled or baptized in the Holy Spirit, the first evidence is speaking in tongues.
- C. You must be baptized in the Holy Spirit in order to operate in any or all of the 9 gifts of the Spirit listed in 1 Corinthians 12.
- D. This is an experience separate from being born again where Jesus, the Baptizer, pours out the Spirit upon the believer.
- E. A believer may be baptized in the Holy Spirit without the initial evidence of speaking in tongues. You are not saved until you are filled with the Holy Spirit.
- F. Jesus said that the main reason for the baptism in the Holy Spirit is to speak in tongues.

## **12. THE INFILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

- A. The infilling in the Holy Spirit happens at the same time as you are saved.
- B. There is an initial, but there are multiple fillings of the Holy Spirit.
- C. At salvation, the infilling of the Holy Spirit is vital in order to operate in any or all of the 9 gifts of the Spirit listed in 1 Corinthians 12.
- D. Everyone, including non-Christians, has been filled with the Holy Spirit.

## **13. THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT**

- A. The gifts of the Spirit serve to build up the church and to demonstrate the presence of God.
- B. A believer should expect to experience the operation of only one or two of the gifts of the Spirit in their life.
- C. The most important gift of the Spirit is tongues.
- D. Spiritual gifts, such as prophecy, words of knowledge and words of wisdom when used properly, are equal in authority to the Scriptures.
- E. Any of the gifts of the Spirit may be manifested in a believer's life only after a person is baptized in the Holy Spirit.

## **14. DIVINE HEALING**

- A. Divine healing is provided through Christ's atonement.
- B. Sickness may be the result of God's judgment.
- C. Healing only occurs through the manifestation of the gifts of healing.
- D. Healing always occurs if there is enough faith.
- E. If one has enough faith they will never be sick.
- F. Sickness and disease are a result of the fall.

## **15. THE CHURCH**

- A. There is only one True Church.
- B. The True Church is made up of those who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues.
- C. Becoming a member of the True Church of Jesus Christ is determined by one's faith in Christ.
- D. A human leader might be The Head of the Church.
- E. When a minister becomes ordained, he or she is given total unlimited authority.





## 16. ORDINANCES

- A. The communion service is a service of remembrance.
- B. When a believer takes communion, God gives him saving grace.
- C. Water baptism is necessary in order to be saved.
- D. Water baptism is a sign demonstrating a believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection.
- E. The Bible teaches that a person is completely immersed in water at water baptism.

## 17. RAPTURE

- A. The Bible calls the Rapture the blessed hope of the church.
- B. At the Rapture, Jesus will come in the air to receive Christians to Himself – both the living and the dead in Christ.
- C. The Rapture is imminent which means it could happen at any time.
- D. The Rapture happens at the end of the Great Tribulation period mentioned in Revelation.

## 18. THE TRIBULATION

- A. The Great Tribulation is the time of the outpouring of God's wrath upon the earth.
- B. The Church will go through the Great Tribulation
- C. At the end of the Great Tribulation, Jesus will return to the earth.

## 19. THE SECOND COMING

- A. Jesus will return to earth after the Church has triumphed over Satan to prepare for Christ's rule and reign.
- B. Jesus will return at the end of the Great Tribulation.
- C. When Jesus returns, He will introduce the Millennial Age which is a 1000-year reign of Christ on earth.
- D. Jesus does not physically return at the Second Coming but He does come and reign through the Church, His Body.

## 20. THE END JUDGMENT

- A. Christians are not judged at the Great White Throne but at the Bema or Believer's Judgment Seat.
- B. The unrighteous will not exist forever in hell but will be annihilated.
- C. After the Great White Throne Judgment, everything will be restored including the devil and fallen angels.
- D. Following the Great White Throne Judgment, the righteous will share the glory of God in the New Heaven and New Earth.



#### 4.3 | Theology Practical Questions (14 Questions)

1. How do you prioritize your physical and mental health?
2. Do you consume alcohol? If yes, how do you ensure you ensure moderation (free from dependence/addiction) and drunkenness (which the Bible calls sin).
3. Do you consume substances such as tobacco, marijuana or other recreational drugs?
4. Do you have any unhealthy habits, addictions or indulgences such as over-eating, media, excessive exercise or dieting, or excessive spending?
5. Do you actively or in the past engage in sinful sexual activity such as pornography, online relationships, adultery, fornication, or lust?
6. In your words, within a paragraph or two define Christian sexuality:
7. In your words, within a paragraph or two define Christian stewardship of your finances:
8. Are you faithfully tithing to the local church?

Yes

No

If yes, (please explain):

9. Are you in financial debt or living outside of your means?

Yes

No

If yes, (please explain):



**10. Have you been convicted of a crime?**

Yes  
No

If yes, (please explain):

**11. Would you pass a Background Check for Plan2Protect policies working with minors?**

Yes  
No

If yes, (please explain):

**12. Have you ever sued someone or are you suing someone now?**

Yes  
No

If yes, (please explain):

**13. What is our Christian responsibility to address issues of social and economic injustice (i.e. poverty, the oppressed, the displaced)?**

**14. What is your view regarding women as leaders and/or pastors in ministry?**



#### 4.4 | Christlike Character Questions (12 Questions)

1. Share what you think is the primary responsibility of the shepherd (pastor)?
2. Share why you desire to be ordained?
3. In your own words, explain the difference between a calling and a job.
4. Do you believe you are called by God to the vocational work of Ministry? If yes, why do you believe this to be so?
5. Is your home in order? Does your family support you in your ministry?
6. A minister must be a person of integrity and character, living above reproach. What Godly characteristics are important to you and exemplified in your life?
7. Which areas of your character are vulnerable or susceptible to reproach?
8. When tempted, where do you tend to be vulnerable to the enemy?
9. Practically speaking, how do you abide in Christ?
10. When weary, heavy laden how do you go to Jesus to find rest for your soul?
11. In your own words, describe how a member of the Clergy can abuse their power in serving others?
12. Has your calling into full-time ministry been affirmed by local shepherds (elders)?



4.5 | Spiritual Disciplines and Gifting Questions (5 Questions)

1. A minister must be a person of integrity and character, living above reproach. What Godly characteristics have are important to you and exemplified in your life?

2. List your primary and secondary spiritual gifts. (Referenced Below)

- Love Gifts (Admin, Helps, Mercy, and Giving)
- Word Gifts (Teaching, Exhortation, Apostleship, Leadership, Pastoring, Evangelism)
- Power Gifts (Faith, Discernment, Miracles, Tongues, Interpretation, Intercession, Power, Prophecy, Healing, Knowledge, Wisdom)

3. How does God use spiritual gifts in your life and ministry? Share concrete examples?

4. How well do you blend with others in the body of Christ whose spiritual gifts might differ quite strongly from yours? Share how you walk together, while being different.

5. Do you understand and practice the following Spiritual Disciplines? Share which disciplines you have as a regular practice in your following Jesus. Which ones need more attention?

<b>Abstinence (Disciplines where we don't)</b>	<b>Engagement (Disciplines where we do)</b>
Solitude	Study
Silence	Worship
Fasting	Celebrate
Frugality	Service
Chastity	Prayer
Secrecy	Fellowship
Sacrifice	Confession
Submission	Generosity



## Appendix

- Statement of Fundamental Essentials and Truths
- Ministry Log Sheet

**GROWING TOGETHER  
WITH JESUS  
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
IN OUR CITY.** *this is our heartbeat.*