

Apostolic Living Bread Fellowship

Application For Ministerial Credential and License

Prior to mailing this application, Applicant must: [1] print clearly in ink, [2] answer every question honestly, as omissions will cause delays, [3] sign and date the application and the accompanying Consecration / Commitment Covenant, [4] enclose check for License Fee / Fellowship Card made payable to A.L.B.F.

- Eligibility Requirements Of Applicants -

Ministerial License / Credentials are for the protection of true Ministers of the Gospel and also the Churches. They enable the Minister to meet legal requirements in the performance of marriage ceremonies, and other religious duties. License / Credentials issued by a religious Body indicates that the holder thereof is not only in harmony with the Scriptural views of that Body, but is also qualified to represent such Body and set forth its views in general. It is very important, therefore, that the A.L.B.F. stand for the highest possible standard of Apostolic faith and holiness, exercise great care in conferring any License / Credentials or papers of recommendation, in order that none may receive them except those whose moral character, ministerial ethics, principles, and qualifications have been proven among the brethren. It is desirable that those who have proven themselves to be faithful, competent, and spiritual servants of The Lord, whose lives are above reproach and of good report among the brethren be Ordained. Such persons should be able to read and write, must be able to officiate at a Marriage Ceremony, Funeral Service, Baptismal Service, etc. Persons feeling the call of The Lord, but not qualified for Ordination, may fill out this application and present the same with such recommendation of one or more Ministers in good standing with the A.L.B.F.

{1} Date of Birth: _____ Race / Ethnicity: _____ Gender: _____ Married /
Single

{2} When did you repent and receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost? _____

{3} When were you baptized in the Name of The Lord Jesus Christ? _____

Where? _____ Ministers Name: _____

{4} Have you read and do you agree with the Articles of Faith and By-Laws of this Fellowship/Association? **Yes /
No**

If not, please state your reasons _____

Are you willing to accept the tenants of faith of this Fellowship/Association as the guiding principles of your
Ministry, and endeavor to promote them in your field of labor upon affiliation with this body? **Yes / No**

{5} What is your calling / ministry? _____

How long have you felt this calling? _____

{6} Have you been Ordained? **Yes / No** If so, by what Body? _____

When? _____ How long have you been a Minister? _____

{7} Have you ever been affiliated with any Ministerial Body? **Yes / No**

If so, please give their name: _____

{8} Have you left them? **Yes / No** If so, why? _____

{9} Have you ever been divorced / remarried? **Yes / No** If yes, please explain in an attached sheet the
reason why and when this occurred.

{10} Do you believe in the physical second return and appearing of Jesus Christ? **Yes / No**

{11} Do you believe and teach the doctrine of Holiness / Sanctification: that our manner of conduct, appearance,
and apparel should reflect modesty, gender distinction, and separation from the world? **Yes / No**

{12} Do you believe and teach the doctrine of Liberalism, Moral Relativism, Replacement Theology, New Reform
Progressivism, Emergent Church Philosophy, or kindred New Age/Charismatic doctrines? **Yes / No**

{13} Will you at all times *endeavor to keep the unity of The Spirit in the bonds of peace* by demonstrating ethical
principles that respect the sincere convictions of your fellow-Minister and fellow-Christian, and which renders
due Christian courtesy to those who may hold opposing doctrinal positions? **Yes / No**

{14} Will you agree to support this Fellowship/Association financially by giving annual dues and offerings?
Yes / No

Name Of Applicant {print or type}

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Home Address:

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone # with a/c: _____ Email: _____

Send Credentials / License To:

Home Church: _____

Church Address: _____

Church Phone Number: _____

Pastor's Name: _____

Pastor's Phone Number: _____

My Position In The Church Is: _____

Number of Years At Home Church: _____

Previous Pastor {If Applicable}: _____

Previous Pastor's Phone Number: _____

If you have been affiliated with any other Ministerial Body; please give name, address, and phone# of person who can verify your affiliation: _____

RECOMMENDATION

It is very important that every precaution be taken by those recommending, approving, or endorsing any applicant and their application. Recommending Parties are in a measure responsible for those they recommend. **Quality and Qualifications are essential features.**

I Believe The Applicant Is Qualified For Licensure Based On: [circle one] Personal Knowledge / Investigation Made

Recommending Party: _____ Date: _____

Ordained Pastor: _____ Date: _____

Executive Board Member: _____ Date: _____

Credential Committee Chairman: _____ Date: _____

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACE BELOW / LEAVE FOR ASSOCIATION SECRETARY

Date Application Received

Form and Date Of Papers Issued

Ministerial Record Page

Apostolic Living Bread Fellowship

Consecration / Commitment Covenant

WHEREAS: *“Holiness Is God’s True Nature”,* and this nature is a requisite for every Spirit-filled believer in Christ Jesus, which involves the body, soul, and spirit of the Christian. {Ex.15:11 , Lev.20:7 , Mt.5:48 , Rom.1:4 , Rom.6 , Eph.5:26,27 , Phil.2:5,12,15 , I Thess.4:3,4,7 , 5:22,23 , Heb.10:19}

WHEREAS: *“Our Body Is The Temple Of The Holy Ghost.....If any man be **in** Christ, he is a NEW creature. Old things are passed away and all things become NEW.....We are ambassadors [Representatives] for Christ.....that we might be made the righteousness of God **in** Him”.* {I Cor.6:19,20 , II Cor.5:17-21}

It is therefore incumbent upon us to maintain a spirit of holiness and modesty in our character and clothing, attitude and appearance. Subsequent to their transgression in the garden of Eden, the fig leaf covering of Adam and Eve was inadequate for a Holy God. Therefore, He fashioned modest clothing for them made from animal skins, revealing to them [and us] that holiness in appearance must be associated with His provision for our sins. God instructed His priests to wear “holy garments” which would cover their nakedness, thus being representative of a Holy God. {Ex.20:26 , 28:2,42} Deuteronomy 22:5 enunciates the moral principle of a clear gender distinction in clothing and outward appearance. Proverbs 7:10 refers to “the attire of an harlot”. Apparel associated with sin is always inappropriate for Christians.

WHEREAS: *“We are living epistles read of all people.....and.....the unregenerate has no understanding with regard to the spiritual things of God”,* our outward appearance is the primary way in which we are an unspoken witness of the transforming power of Jesus Christ. {II Cor.3:2,3 , I Cor.2:14}

Whenever we reflect outwardly what we are inwardly, we are declaring to the world God’s holy nature and His abiding presence. In the 11th chapter of St. Luke, Jesus called the Scribes and Pharisees “hypocrites” because they were **not** outwardly what they were inwardly. Throughout the four Gospels, Jesus *never* referred to the publicans and sinners as hypocrites, simply because they appeared outwardly *what they were* inwardly. So, according to Jesus, there are only two type of people who are **not** hypocrites: [1] those who are **not** holy on the inside and outside at the same time, and [2] those who **are** holy on the inside and outside at the same time. Anyone who is not **totally** one way or the other is a hypocrite, because they appear to be what they are not. Those who refuse to comply with God’s Word regarding “outward holiness” are equally as hypocritical, only in a reverse way, because they claim inward holiness without an outward manifestation.

WHEREAS: *“We are not to love the world neither be conformed to this world”,* it would be unacceptable for us to mirror worldly values in our appearance. {Rom.12:1,2 , I Jn.2:15,16} Although our modest apparel is not a meritorious work which earns our salvation, it is a moral value which reflects our salvation. Adhering to holiness and modesty in conduct and clothing transmits nonverbal signals. Christians who are non-compliant with God’s fashion requirements are actually making their credibility and witness ineffective. Worldly fashions by design reflect sensuality which stir desires and ignite passions, thereby appealing to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, which the Bible condemns.

WHEREAS: Today’s business and corporate world have dress codes and guidelines for their employees, how much more should The Church of Jesus Christ reflect His Holiness. Many of those

who comply with occupational/business standards, but refuse to comply with Biblical standards, use legalism as their excuse. However; the slogan of Sitex, the uniform company, sums it up best: A Uniform Tells Who You Are.

WHEREAS: The origin of earrings and body piercing are connected with the spirit world and directly involved with heathenistic worship and idolatry. The golden calf was made from Egyptian earrings and jewelry. {Ex.32} Throughout The Holy Scriptures, extravagance and excessiveness is always associated with vanity and worldliness. The Lord forbade the Daughters of Zion from wearing improper attire and jewelry/ornaments associated with idolatry and/or the occult. God has always required His people to follow modesty and moderation. {Gen. 35:1-4 , Ex.21:6 , 33:5,6 , Lev.19:28 , Is.3:16-24 , Jer.4:30 , I Cor.3:16,17 , 6:19,20 , James 4:4 , I Pt.1:14 , 3:1-5}

WHEREAS: *“Nature itself teaches us that it is a shame for a man to have long hair and a woman’s long hair is her glory and covering. Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered, dishonors his head. Every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head. For it is even all one as if she were shaven. For if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered. For a man indeed ought not cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God. The woman is the glory of the man. For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angles.”* {I Cor.11:1-15} During the first 5,900 years of human history, women in every culture throughout the world wore their hair long and uncut. It was not until the 1920’s when women began to cut their hair. During the anti-establishment movement of the 1960’s, men began to let their hair grow long and uncut. With the advent of rock-n-roll music and the drug culture, Americans displayed their rebellion in society through their hairstyles. Unisex clothing and hairstyles have always been associated with society’s immorality and deviancy. The Christian must maintain a mark of identification which demonstrates gender distinction and separation from the world in order to *live and walk in The Spirit*. Standards protect our holiness in much the same way that principles protect our priorities. Standards are implemented for preventative measures. They bring order and discipline to our lives. Without perimeters, the sacred becomes sacrilegious. Without holiness, Apostolic authority is unachievable. The Highway of Holiness is the only way that leads to God’s Kingdom. {Gal.5:16,24,25 , II Cor.6:14-18 , Is.35:8}

WHEREAS: *“A Good Minister of Jesus Christ is one who is nourished up in **sound** doctrine...This Gospel is committed to **faithful** men who are able to teach others.....Bishops and Elders must rule their own house well.....If they are unwilling to take care of their own house, how can they take care of God’s work? **Even so must their wives** be faithful in all things....They should adorn themselves in **modest** apparel with sobriety. Their behavior should reflect **holiness**.....Men should pray and lift up **holy** hands.....We should be **an example** of the believer in word, conversation, charity, spirit, faith, and in purity.....that the name of God and His doctrine be not blasphemed.....We should **continue** in those things which we have been taught, learned, and been assured of.....We should show ourselves a **pattern** of good works.... We should show good **fidelity** in all things.....We are **sanctified vessels of honor**, ready and prepared for The Master’s use.....Sound doctrine will both exhort and convince.....The Grace of God teaches us to deny ungodliness and that we should live soberly, righteously, and godly **in this present world**.....We are a **peculiar** people.....The Church of The Living God is the pillar and ground of truth. {I & II Tim , Titus}*

THEREFORE: In order to give clarity and specificity to our position on this important issue.....

Article Of Faith Ten states: We believe and teach in a life of holiness, without which no man shall

see The Lord, through sanctification as a definite, yet progressive work of grace. Christians should cleanse themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God; *for God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.* Our manner of conduct, appearance, and apparel should reflect modesty, gender distinction, and separation from the world. We should abstain from any activity or practice which is not conducive to a godly lifestyle; for we are to live and walk in The Spirit. {I Cor.6:19-20 , 11:1-15 , II Cor.7:1 , Gal.5:16-26 , Eph.4:23-32 , Col.3:1-10 , I Tim.2:8-9 , I Thess.4:7 , Titus 2:11-12 , Heb.12:14 , I Pt.1:15-16 , I Jn.2:15-16}

Our Ministerial Application states: We believe in the highest possible standard of Apostolic Faith & Holiness - Quality & Qualifications are essential features.

THEREFORE: We; being Pentecostal in faith and Apostolic in doctrine have established the guidelines contained in this Consecration/Commitment Covenant as a method of accountability and affirmation to ensure that only those Ministers who are in compliance will be able to obtain Licensure with this Association/Fellowship. Please answer the following questions honestly and in the fear of God.

I have read the Articles of Faith and By-Laws of this Association/Fellowship and agree with the same. YES / NO

I have read this Consecration/Commitment Covenant and agree with the same. YES / NO

My conduct will be principled and ethical, reflecting God's Holiness. YES / NO

My attire and appearance reflects gender distinction, modesty, and separation from the world. YES / NO

My hairstyle and lifestyle reflects gender distinction, modesty, and separation from the world. YES / NO

As a Christian/Apostolic Man, I affirm that my wife is also in compliance with these guidelines. YES / NO

Should my marital status change due to the death of my spouse, re-marriage, or other life changing events, I understand and agree that I may be asked to re-affirm this Consecration / Commitment Covenant. YES / NO

Signature: _____

Date: _____