# Ministerial Ethics

# Who is a Minister?

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- Literally, a Minister is a Servant.
- A Christian minister is seen as someone authorized to conduct religious services.
- A Christian minister is a person who leads worship services, administrates a church, or conducts weddings and funerals etc.
- Any person who desires to serve God by "proclaiming the gospel so that . . . others might become sanctified by the Holy Spirit" is a Christian minister. Example is Paul in Rom. 15:16
- Broadly speaking, being a servant of Christ makes one a Christian minister. The concept of a servant-leader. Jn. 13:1-5
  (Jesus Christ washed the feet of His disciples)

### What is Ethics?

According to Webster's Dictionary, Ethics is:

- The study of standards of conduct and moral judgment.
- The system or code of morals of a particular person, religion, group or profession.

The Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines Ethics as:

A system of moral principles, rules of conduct

#### What is Ministerial Ethics?

- A system of moral principles, rules of conduct or standards of conduct and moral judgment for ministers.
- Ministerial ethics deals with the things ministers should do and the things ministers should not do.
- There are many Christian Ministers and God gives each person different ministry and spiritual gifts: different ministries - Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers.
- The differences in individual Ministers who operate in different ministries in each person's unique way is capable of creating diversity of approach, chaos, confusion, misunderstanding, conflicts etc.
- Ministerial Ethics is one way to standardise approach.
- It also serves as a guide and must be allowed to govern the conduct of everyone in the ministry.

### Ministerial Ethics

- A Christian Minister must be a member of the Church. The Church here is the body of Christ. Rom. 12:5; 1 Cor. 12:12-27
- Christ is the Head of the Church. Col. 1:15-20

Therefore, every Christian Minister is answerable, ultimately, to Jesus Christ

#### RCCG MISSION & VISION

- To make heaven.
- To take as many people with us.
- To have a member of RCCG in every family of all nations.
- To accomplish No. 1 above, holiness will be our lifestyle.
- To accomplish No. 2 and 3 above, we will plant churches within five minutes walking distance in every city and town of developing countries and within five minutes driving distance in every city and town of developed countries.
- We will pursue these objectives until every Nation in the world is reached for the Lord Jesus Christ

#### **Sunday Service**

- Praise & worship create an atmosphere of worship to bring down God's presence/glory. Mostly led by the Choir. It is not for entertainment.
- Intercessory prayers focus is thanksgiving and prayer for the service.
- Message/word to inspire thanksgiving as a lifestyle, contemporary issues, doctrinal teachings, renewal/deliverance/prayer and faith driven.

#### **Sunday Service**

- Offer opportunity for salvation to the unsaved and backsliders
- Follow-up on first timers and new converts until they can stand on their feet.
- Giving of thanks to God after every service
- Feedback process review what went well, what didn't go well, areas for

improvement etc after the services

#### **Digging Deep**

- Focus is bible study, not prayer.
- The Minister should send topic and teaching material to the Pastor ahead.
- Teach using relevant bible verses. Don't preach.
- Teaching should be in sections: Introduction, outlines not more than 3, conclusion.
- Make it interactive.
- Allow time for comments, questions and answers

#### **Faith Clinic**

- It is a prayer meeting, not a bible study.
- As the name indicates, it must be faith based prayers.
- The Ministers should share a faith based message for a few minutes to stir up the faith of the people before the prayers.
- Examples of passages that can be used to boost the faith of congregants Jn. 5:1-15; 11:1-44; Mk.4:35-41; Mk. 5:1-43; Lk. 5:1-11; Acts 3:1-12; Acts 12:1-11; 1 Kings 17:8-17; 2 Kings 4:1-43; 2 Kings 5:1-27
- Use relevant examples and share testimonies. Personal testimonies are good, but don't 'manufacture' one.
- Encourage sinners to be saved. Prov. 15:8; Ps. 66:18

#### **Workers Meeting**

- Compulsory for all Workers (Ministers).
- It prepares and equips Workers for the services of the day and more.
- Standardised teaching through the Open Heavens.
  - # The Minister should introduce the topic for the day and the supporting texts, read the bible passage and the message.
  - # Also endeavour to take the prayer/action point and hymn for the day.
  - # You can explain/clarify one or two things, but don't preach another message.
- Here in CTL, we introduced Morning Dew for a rounded development of the Ministers beyond his/her ministerial portfolio and secular profession
- Announcements, updates, feedback and prayers.

### OUR SERVICES IN RCCG (CTL)

#### **Prayer Chain**

- Prayer focussed like the Faith Clinic.
- Wider scope touches on every aspect of life.
- Balanced word and prayer

# MINISTERIAL ETHICS - BEHAVIOURAL/ATTITUDINAL EXPECTATIONS

- Punctuality
- Discipline
- Obedient
- Dutiful

- Diligence
- Prayerful
- Mentoring younger workers
- Be prepared always

# MINISTERIAL ETHICS - BEHAVIOURAL/ATTITUDINAL EXPECTATIONS

- Ownership mentality
- Administrative capability
- Embrace change improvement,
  innovation
- Love one another Christ like love
- Don't counsel the opposite sex alone

- Discipline
- Approachable welcoming smile
- Diligence
- Stand up to be counted
- Don't cross the line in relationship with the opposite sex

# MINISTERIAL ETHICS - BEHAVIOURAL/ATTITUDINAL FXPECTATIONS

- Orderliness
- Good time management
- No schism 1 Cor. 12:25-27
- Don't create factions.
- No favouritism
- Shun tribalism

- Good conduct at all times. Be a good ambassador of the Head of the Church.
- Moderation in all things e.g dressing
- Accountability & transparency
- Personal grooming appearance,
  dressing etc

### Reward for the Ministers

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- Earthly blessings. Mt. 6:25-33; Mt. 19:29
- Eternal glorious home. Jn. 14:1-3
- We shall be like Him. 1 Jn. 3:2
- We shall receive a crown of glory. 1 Pet. 5:2-4

# Conclusion

### **CONCLUSION - CHARGE TO MINISTERS**

It amuses me when Ministers complain, grumble or get annoyed over not so material issues like: "they did not ask after me", "he talked to me somehow", "they didn't look after me or check on me", "they ignore my struggles".

We are accountable to God. Let us look unto Him. Heb. 12:2; 2 Cor. 5:10

The world did more and worse things to Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

### **CONCLUSION - CHARGE TO MINISTERS**

It also beats me when we have to cajole workers and ministers to do the work of their calling. When people ask what is in it for me? Or they tell you that come and you shall be blessed.

Brethren, there is no man that can bless you enough to compare to that which God has promised us.

Let us stop waiting for inducements to serve God.

#### **CONCLUSION - CHARGE TO MINISTERS**

Let's serve God because we love Him, because out of many He called us and went further to choose us.

Let us start the new RCCG calendar year (2022/2023) with a full understanding of who we are and unwavering conviction of why we are serving Him.

# God bless you