



HIGHER VISION NETWORK

REQUIREMENTS

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STATEMENTS

HIGHER VISION NETWORK

Founded in 2007 and headquartered in Valencia, CA, HVN is a network of Christian ministers, churches, and ministries committed to building and expanding the Kingdom of God across the globe. With an emphasis upon the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit and the five-fold ministry gifts of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, HVN's purpose is to connect and equip the saints for the work of ministry.

Although HVN ministers come from a variety of denominational and non-denominational backgrounds, common ground is found through the endorsement of the HVN Statement of Faith. Each minister applying for acceptance to HVN has been recommended to us by an established local church, Christian ministry, or fellow network ministers who are familiar with the applicant's ministry, calling, and gifts.

HVN is non-denominational but interdependent in nature. We believe in covenant relationship, functional accountability, and serving one another to build God's Kingdom, not our own. The result is a synergistic network and fellowship of ministers and ministries, each benefiting from others' gifts, callings, and talents. Together, HVN ministries have impacted tens of thousands of believers in the U.S. and around the world. We also work with churches, ministries, and believers worldwide, whether they are affiliated with HVN or not.

Members have a wide variety of theological, Biblical, and practical ministry training. Most are graduates from Seminary or Bible college, or have attended other institutes of ministry training. Others have received theological education, Bible education, and practical ministry training at the local church level. All have demonstrated a level of theological and practical ministry proficiency approved by our Credentialing Committee. We do not believe God limits His call to those who have had the opportunity to attend seminary. We also believe in recognizing the gifts and callings of God in the lives of all who serve Him.

Therefore, we license and ordain women as well as men. In evaluating candidates, we look at the spiritual life, Bible knowledge, and ministry experience including formal education and theological training.

Our goal is to serve, strengthen, equip, encourage, and provide spiritual covering for ministers, churches, and ministries to help them accomplish their God-given call and destiny.

GENERAL HVN REQUIREMENTS:

1. You have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord.
2. You accept the Bible written and undivided as your guide for living and ministry, and are in agreement with the HVN Statement of Faith.
3. You have a Spiritual call to the ministry.
4. You evidence your call to Christian ministry in your life, Bible and ministry training, and Christian service.
5. You commit yourself to a life of spiritual growth, holiness, integrity, and Christian service.
6. You will faithfully and consistently support HVN as led by the Spirit of God.
7. You will complete the application process and interview successfully.
8. You agree to submit an annual licensure fee of \$150.00.



MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS + REQUIREMENTS:

COMMISSIONED MINISTER:

The applicant must meet the requirements of Titus 1:6-9, be currently active in some aspect of ministry necessitating credentials (to access hospitals, jails, prisons, foreign countries, etc.), and be currently enrolled in or have completed an approved program of Biblical education/practical ministry training. Commissioned Ministers are still developing in their ministry and are not licensed to preach during regular church services or perform sacerdotal services, such as communion, weddings, funerals, or baptisms. Licensure does not expire; however, background reports must be renewed every two years and each Commissioned Minister will undergo a yearly review with Executive Leadership.

LICENSED MINISTER:

The applicant must meet the requirements of Titus 1:6-9, have completed an acceptable program of Biblical education or have equivalent practical ministry training, and be active in gospel ministry. A licensed credential is a credential given to those who have some ministry experience but need further experience to be established as an ordained minister. There is no difference in the legal standing of a licensed minister and an ordained minister by HVN. Both are authorized by HVN to perform sacerdotal services, however, a licensed minister, while authorized, is not required to perform them on a regular basis. Licensure does not expire; however, background reports must be renewed every two years and each Licensed Minister will undergo a yearly review with Executive Leadership.

ORDAINED MINISTER:

The applicant must meet the requirements of Titus 1:6-9, have completed an acceptable program of Biblical education or have equivalent practical ministry training, be active in gospel ministry, and have previously held licensed ministerial credentials for a minimum of three years. An Ordained Minister's credential is given to those persons who have an "established and proven ministry." Such persons are not only authorized to perform sacerdotal duties but are required to perform them on an ongoing regular basis. Licensure does not expire; however, background reports must be renewed every two years and each Ordained Minister will undergo a yearly review with Executive Leadership.

“An elder must be blameless, faithful to his wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. Since an overseer manages God’s household, he must be blameless - not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.”

TITUS 1:6-9



HVN MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS + SERVICES:

1. A spiritual covering for you.
2. The opportunity to cultivate long-term relationships through various gatherings such as conferences and retreats.
3. The opportunity to consult on ministry ideas and recommendations for helpful resources.
4. A bi-annual HVN newsletter that keeps you up to date on HVN events and brings you edification through inspirational and teaching articles.
5. Prayer support available in response to requests for ministry and personal matters.
6. Certification of Licensure and Identification Card.

STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS:

This church accepts the Bible as our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. This Statement of Fundamental Truths is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing - 1 Corinthians 1:10, Acts 2:42). The phraseology employed in this statement is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to a full-gospel ministry. No claim is made that it contains all Biblical truth, only that it covers our need as to these fundamental doctrines.

THE SCRIPTURES INSPIRED:

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are the inspired Word of God, a revelation from God to man, the infallible rule of faith and conduct (2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

THE ONE TRUE GOD:

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth, and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10-11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).

THE DEITY OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST:

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31-35), His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22), His miracles (Acts 2:22, 10:38), His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3, 5:21), His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4), and His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9-11, 2:33; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1:3).

THE FALL OF MAN:

Man was created good and upright, for God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26-27, 2:17, 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).

THE SALVATION OF MAN:

Man's only hope for redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God. Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God and witnesses the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:13; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11, 3:5-7). The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence is a life of Godly conduct evidenced by spiritual growth (Romans 12:6-7; Galatians 5:22-23).

WATER BAPTISM:

Those who have repented of their sins and believed in the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation shall be baptized by immersion in water. The person baptized thereby indicates that he has died with Christ and that he also has been raised with Him to walk in newness of life (Matthew 28:19; Acts 10:47-48; Romans 6:4).

THE LORD'S SUPPER:

Consisting of the elements of bread and the fruit of the vine, the Lord's Supper is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death; and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26). As the Scriptures teach, the Lord's Supper shall be celebrated regularly until he comes again (Luke 22:19-20).

BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT:

All believers are entitled to and should expect and receive the promise of the Father the baptism in the Holy Spirit, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17, 10:44-46, 11:14-16, 15:7-9). With the Baptism in the Holy Spirit comes such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), an intensified consecration to God, a dedication to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

THE EVIDENCE OF BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT:

The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance (Acts 2:4). The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:10, 28), but different in purpose and use.

SANCTIFICATION:

The Scriptures teach a life of holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we are able to obey the command, "Be holy, for I am Holy." Sanctification is the will of God for all believers and should be earnestly pursued by walking in obedience to God's Word (Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 1 John 2:6; Romans 8:3-4).

THE CHURCH:

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of its great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of "to the church of the first-born, whose names were written in heaven" (Ephesians 1:22, 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23).

THE MINISTRY:

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the purpose of leading the Church in: (1) Glorifying God (Ephesians 1:12); (2) Discipling persons in Christian beliefs and practices (Matthew 28:18-20); (3) Calling persons to salvation through repentance, forgiveness, and faith in Christ (Luke 24:47); (4) Meeting human needs as resources are available (Matthew 25:1-46).

THE BLESSED HOPE:

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation, together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord, is the imminent and blessed hope of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52).

THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF JESUS:

The revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, the salvation of national Israel, and the millennial reign of Christ on earth is the Scriptural promise and the world's hope (2 Thessalonians 1:7; Revelation 19:11-16; Romans 11:25-27; Revelation 20:1-7).

THE FINAL JUDGMENT:

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20, 20:11-15, 21:8).

THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH:

“But according to His promise we wait for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells” (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:22).

STATEMENT OF MARRIAGE:

This Church believes that because God our Creator established marriage as a sacred institution between one man and one woman, the idea that marriage is a covenant only between one man and one woman has been the traditional definition of marriage for all human history (“Traditional Definition of Marriage”). Because of the longstanding importance of the Traditional Definition of Marriage to humans and their relationships and communities, and most importantly the fact that God has ordained that marriage be between one man and one woman. This is clearly conveyed in God's inerrant Scriptures, including for example in Matthew 19:4-6 where in speaking about marriage, Jesus referred to the fact that “he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,” the Church hereby creates this policy, which shall be known as the “Marriage Policy.”

Under this Church's Marriage Policy, the Traditional Definition of Marriage is the only definition of marriage that will be recognized or accepted. No elder officer, employee, servant, agent, or any person, Church, organization, or entity under the direction or control of this Church shall commit any act or omission, or make any decision whatever, that would be inconsistent with, full support of this Church's Marriage Policy and strict adherence to the Traditional Definition of Marriage rather than any alternative to the Traditional Definition of Marriage.

This Church's Marriage Policy specifically prohibits acts or omissions including but not limited to permitting any Church assets or property, whether real property, personal property, intangible property, or any property or asset of any kind that is subject to the direction or control of the Church, to be used in any manner that would be or could be perceived by any person to be inconsistent with this Church's Marriage Policy or the traditional definition of marriage, including but not limited to permitting any corporate facilities to be used by any person, organization, Church, or group that would or might use such facilities to convey intentionally or by implication, what might be perceived as a favorable impression about any definition of marriage other than the Traditional Definition of Marriage.

We believe this Church's Marriage Policy is based upon God's will for human life as conveyed to us through the Holy Scriptures, upon which this Church has been founded and anchored, and this Marriage Policy shall not be subject to change through popular vote; referendum; prevailing opinion of members or the general public; influence of or interpretation by any government authority, agency, or official action; or legal developments on the local, state, or federal level.

HIGHER VISION HAS 12 LEADERSHIP VALUES:

HV Leaders are HONORING: We honor Christ, His Church, and our community.

HV Leaders are VISIONARY: We have bold vision for the future and choose to fail forward.

HV Leaders are EVANGELISTIC: We bring people in and build people up.

HV Leaders are MULTIPLIERS: We multiply leaders. Our job is not to do our job.

HV Leaders are SERVANTS: We believe if serving is beneath you, leadership is beyond you.

HV Leaders are SUBMISSIVE: We surrender our agenda, preference, and method to build God's church.

HV Leaders are PRO-ACTIVE: We are empowered to bring ideas and find solutions.

HV Leaders are EXCELLENT: We bring our best and then some.

HV Leaders are UNITED: We fight for unity at all costs.

HV Leaders are BALANCED: We live balanced lives and avoid all extremes.

HV Leaders are GENEROUS: We lead the way with cheerful and outrageous generosity.

HV Leaders are FRIENDLY: We keep the welcome rolling long after the first hello.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Complete and submit the below application.
2. Complete an interview with the leadership team at Higher Vision Church.
3. Your application and interview will be taken into consideration and you'll be contacted about your status with HVN within 45 days.
4. Upon approval, submit your annual fee of \$150.00.

*In the event that it should become necessary, Higher Vision Network has the right to revoke licensure due to issues such as heretical teaching, moral failure, or contradictions to HVN's Statement of Faith, Expressions of Faith, or Leadership Values.



