

Truelife Association  
Original Ordination Procedure Since 1988 Discussed with  
Latest Revision and Accepted Practices Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> 2011

When a minister announces his calling to preach to the church of which he is a member The Church having accepted his announcement at a regular service, He will then approach the pastor And deacon board and ask them for a license to be granted to him. If the man has made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ and has become a member of the Local Church by baptism by immersion or proof thereof from another Freewill Baptist Church If he has not been divorced or does not have more than one living wife and has developed a good reputation of the community where he lives and works and provides for physical and spiritual needs of his family in a godly manner he is examined by the deacon board and voted upon by the congregation and if passed by a majority vote. A special service for licensing the man will be held. The pastor will then preach a charge to the man outlining his obligations to The Lord The Church and to all the people he may come in contact with The Church will pray over him and customarily will give the man a KJV Holy Bible and A National Treatise Handbook. and grant him a license signed by the pastor and the church clerk and dated when given to him A man who is a new born Christian a novice will have to wait until he has proven his service to the body of the church congregation before the church is approached about a license. If a man proves trustworthy in his Christian walk the Church will grant a license and put the man under a watch care of the pastor and the church for a period of at least one year. In this year he is expected to support the church with his attendance and tithe supporting the church's various programs Study God's word visit the sick and shut in with the pastor Develop a relationship of care with the church members and as God allows be ready to preach at a notice of the sister churches within the Association His family is to be in subjection as the scripture commands the man of God. He is to study and learn the Faith and Practice and Articles of the Faith of Freewill Baptists. Being instructed by the pastor in Freewill Baptist Doctrine as outlined in the treatise A man who proves himself before the church and the pastor may be ordained after his watch care is fulfilled if he meets the qualifications of Scripture outlined in First Timothy Chapter Three one through Seven . The Local Church that the man belongs to is approached by the Pastor And He declares to the church if that man has fulfilled his watch care faithfully and asks for the church to consider the man for Ordination. If the Church has no pastor the Deacons of the Church will be in charge until this man has fulfilled his time. If there Be No deacons the Board of Trustees If they are members of the church will fulfill the duty. A Body of Believers That has not have been set in order as a Freewill Baptist Church may not ordain a minister under the Truelife Association They may Contact the Association for Help in setting them in order as a mission if they are willing to accept the Freewill Baptist Doctrine or have help in obtaining a pastor .or a Supply Pastor In Order to Ordain The Local church makes a motion second and votes to ordain the man who has been recommended to them by the pastor. if the man has not fulfilled his obligation to the watch care the pastor will not recommend him to be ordained. The man will meet with the pastor and deacon board of the Local church and be examined by the deacon board apart from the congregation And if the deacon board is satisfied with his examination then the Pastor brings his name before the congregation and asks for a vote by show of hands to Ordain the man. If the congregation passes the man for Ordination then the church clerk will draw up a letter to the Association clerk and ask for the Ordaining Council to examine the man to be ordained. The Association Clerk will inform the Ordaining Council Chairman that the church has requested by letter for the Association to Ordain a man from their church. The Ordaining Chairman will work with the Pastor of the local church as to a time for the service and will call a presbytery of at least three members of the ordaining council who will travel to the man's church where he is a member and has requested to Ordain the man. They will hold an examination board with the man and his pastor with random questions being asked the man as to his Belief in and about different subjects in God's word His doctrine his future plans for his ministry and his family's support

His place and position and his alignment with the Faith and Practices of the Freewill Baptist Faith. The Presbytery being satisfied with his examination will call for the Man to be seated in front of the Church along with his wife and family at this time the Moderator will call the church into conference for the purpose of ordaining the man into the ministry. The man and his wife are given a position in front of the church The church is asked if there are any questions they wish to ask the man to be ordained, or if there are any words of exhortation the church wishes to express. At the conclusion of this period of time the man to be ordained and his family is seated in the front pew of the church and an Ordained Minister of his choosing is called on to preach an Ordination charge after which the man to be ordained is called to the altar of the church along with his wife. The Ordaining Chairman or the Moderator of the Association may ask all ordained men to join them at the altar The Ordained Presbytery will anoint the man with oil and a prayer of consecration is said by all The man's wife though not being ordained is prayed for as a help meet and companion in the faith and work. This act of laying of hands will Ordain the man into the ministry and he is presented with an ordination certificate signed and legally stamped by the Association's legal seal and signed by the Association Moderator the Association clerk and presbytery and other ordained men as witnesses with the admonition and his solemn promise that if he decides to leave the Freewill Baptist Faith or denies his faith in Jesus Christ and begins walking ungodly the License and Ordination Certificate shall be returned to the Association or to the Local Church which called for his ordination If the Association clerk receives the certificates they will return the certificates to the Local Church All Truelife Association Works are governed by the National Treatise as to Affiliation. And Discipline which is done by the local church they have the authority of all actions regarding the License and Ordination of all Ministers Pastors or Evangelists Missionaries Deacons or any Ordained men of the Church. This also applies to men from Other Associations who align with the Truelife Association Having been ordained in another Association If a man has been licensed by another Association he will still be examined by the ordaining council and stand a watch care according to the guidelines of the church before being ordained by the Association. Depending on the time of watch care he served in another Freewill Baptist Church or Association he may only have to stand a ninety day watch care while serving a trial pastorate set by the church. Any Church or Minister who wishes to have the Association Executive Board or Ordaining Council hear a complaint may request the Association Board to attend a meeting scheduled with all parties involved being present and will offer a solution according to God's word to bring reconciliation and peace and restoration between the two parties. If a Minister or a church does not abide by the National Treatise or goes knowingly contrary to God's word the Truelife Association will withdraw fellowship from that minister and or church.