



NORTH POINT MINISTRIES, INC. (NPM)

## *Elder Application Instructions*

### **OVERVIEW OF THE OFFICE OF ELDER FOR NORTH POINT MINISTRIES, INC. (NPM)**

The board of elders is comprised of twelve men, including the senior pastor. Elders function primarily as discerners and shepherds, and as such serve as the conscience and guardians of the church. Acts 20:28 states, “Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which he purchased with his own blood.”

The elders evaluate everything that takes place according to three criteria:

- The mission of the organization
- The resources of the organization
- The organization’s doctrinal statement

In most matters, the elders have final say concerning the overall direction of the church.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

There are two parts to the application process:

#### *Elder Recommendation*

This recommendation is to be completed by a church member nominating another church member from any NPM campus for the position of elder. The recommendation is to be completed without consultation with man being nominated. The recommendation is to be completed and submitted online.

#### *Elder Application*

After the elder recommendation has been completed, the church member who has made the nomination should notify the elder candidate. The elder candidate will also be notified by the church office. The candidate will then complete the elder application and submit it online.

## SCRIPTURAL BASIS OF ELDER QUALIFICATIONS

The passages in 1 Timothy 3:1-11, Titus 1:5-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-7 form the basis for elder qualifications.

### *1 Timothy 3:1-11*

Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap. Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

### *Titus 1:5-9*

The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, 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. (NIV)

### *1 Peter 5:1-7*

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.



NORTH POINT MINISTRIES, INC. (NPM)

## *Elder Recommendation*

Name of Elder Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of a NPM church?  YES  NO WHICH CAMPUS? \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for taking time to complete an elder recommendation. This is an important position for our church, one that is not to be taken lightly. As such, we ask that you prayerfully complete this recommendation and evaluate each question honestly based on your knowledge of the nominee’s qualifications for the office of elder for NPM. \*Please take time to read Titus 1:5-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-7, which describe the qualifications for elders.

Please answer all questions. If you do not know if the nominee is qualified in an area, mark the “Don’t Know” box. This is an acceptable answer and will not be held against the nominee.

All recommendations are to be completed and submitted online.

### QUALIFICATIONS

Is the nominee saved and not a recent convert?  YES  NO  DON’T KNOW

Do you believe he would uphold the NPM constitution in its entirety?  YES  NO  DON’T KNOW

Do you consider him to be spiritually mature, able to make wise, biblically sound decisions?  YES  NO  DON’T KNOW

Is he above reproach, affording nothing in his moral conduct that can be attacked?  YES  NO  DON’T KNOW

Because the elder and his family are to be models for the congregation and have greater expectations than other families in the church, we feel it is wise to choose elders who have continued in their first marriages. The only exceptions to this would be in the case of a deceased spouse or a man who has never been married. Does the nominee meet this requirement?  YES  NO  DON’T KNOW  N/A

Does he manage his family well, assuming his responsibility as spiritual leader?  YES  NO  DON’T KNOW  N/A

*\*Printed at the end of this document.*

Do his children respect and obey him, not being open to the charge of being wild and disobedient?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW  N/A

Are his children believers?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW  N/A

Is his wife worthy of respect, not a malicious talker, reasonable and trustworthy?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW

Do you know him to be sincere, reasonable, self-controlled, and disciplined?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW

In dealing with others, is he respectful, not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not quarrelsome, not violent, maintaining a good reputation inside and outside the church?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW

Is he hospitable and a lover of what is good according to Scripture?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW

Is he generous with his money, not focused on the acquisition of wealth, and does he obtain all of his money in an honest and straightforward manner?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW

Is he a man known for sound scriptural doctrine, able to encourage those who don't understand, and to refute those who oppose it?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW

Do you believe he is a man who holds firmly to biblical truth with a clear conscience, no matter the cost to him personally?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW

Is he able to teach?

YES  NO  DON'T KNOW

Can you recommend that he be considered for elder without any reservations?

YES  NO

Do you believe he has been sufficiently tested in his Christian walk and has demonstrated that he is fully qualified to serve as an elder according to Scripture?

YES  NO

*Signature* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_

*Phone Number* \_\_\_\_\_ *E-mail* \_\_\_\_\_

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## Elder Application

First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal Information

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age at salvation: \_\_\_\_\_ Age baptized: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you ordained as a deacon, elder, or pastor? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Ordination year: \_\_\_\_\_ Ordination location: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your spiritual gift? \_\_\_\_\_

### Family Information

Marital status: Single \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_\_\_

Marriage date: \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's age at salvation: \_\_\_\_\_ Age baptized: \_\_\_\_\_

Children's names:	Ages:	Saved?	Age saved:
_____			

### Church Service Information

*Please discuss your experience serving at an NPMI campus. Include campus:*

Past: \_\_\_\_\_

Current: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please discuss your experience serving at other churches:*

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of service: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of service: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Church Leadership Experience**

In which of your church service roles did you serve in a leadership capacity? \_\_\_\_\_

Which was your most challenging role and why? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Business Leadership Experience**

Please discuss the past and present business leadership roles you have had. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the top two leadership principles you have discovered and how you have used them during your career. \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever served, or do you currently serve, on a Board of Directors? Describe these experiences. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Doctrinal Questions**

*What is your understanding of the following?*

God the Father: \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus Christ: \_\_\_\_\_

The Holy Spirit: \_\_\_\_\_

Satan: \_\_\_\_\_

*Explain what you believe the Bible teaches about the following:*

Salvation: \_\_\_\_\_

Sin: \_\_\_\_\_

The Scriptures: \_\_\_\_\_

The Church: \_\_\_\_\_

The Virgin Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

Justification: \_\_\_\_\_

Giving: \_\_\_\_\_

Communion: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

What is your view of the following roles and responsibilities?

The senior pastor of NPMI: \_\_\_\_\_

An elder of NPMI: \_\_\_\_\_

Your role in your family: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Elder Qualifications**

*Please read 1 Timothy 3:1-11, Titus 1:5-9, 1 Peter 5:1-7 and answer the following questions regarding you qualifications for elder.*

Why do you desire to be an elder? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything in particular you would like to accomplish while an elder? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any qualifications in these passages that you do not understand? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any qualifications that you feel you may not meet? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything in your life that causes you concern in holding the office of elder?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything about your lifestyle that would potentially bring reproach on yourself, your family, NPMI, or the name of Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

List some specific ways you lead your family. \_\_\_\_\_

How would you describe the condition of your marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your current walk with the Lord, what He is teaching you in your life today, and the evidence you see of His work throughout your life. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Additional Elder Qualifications**

Have you read the NPM Constitution, and do you agree to fully support it?  
*(Available at the Information Centers and online at [www.northpoint.org/elder](http://www.northpoint.org/elder))*

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you read the NPM Statement of Faith, and do you fully support it?  
*(Available at the Information Centers and online at [www.northpoint.org/elder](http://www.northpoint.org/elder))*

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your relationship with alcohol? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any additional comments or questions regarding your qualifications or the NPMI elder requirements? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Elder Candidate Testimony**

Please give a brief statement of your salvation experience. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Wife's Testimony**

*Please read 1 Timothy 3:1-11, Titus 1:5-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-7 and answer the following questions regarding your husband's qualifications for elder.*

Are there any qualifications that you feel your husband may not meet? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

What are some specific ways your husband leads your family? \_\_\_\_\_

How would you describe the condition of your marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

Please give a brief statement of your salvation experience. \_\_\_\_\_

**To the elder candidate and his wife**

Candidate:

If you certify that you have answered all questions honestly before the Lord and desire to be considered for the office of elder of North Point Ministries, Inc., please sign below.

Elder Candidate's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Wife:

If you certify that you have answered all questions honestly before the Lord and support your husband's consideration for the office of elder of North Point Ministries, Inc., please sign below.

Wife's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attachments:**

Please attach a current photograph and resume.