The Significance of Ordination

The Foursquare Church has two aspects in our ministerial credentialing: licensing and ordination.

1. The Foursquare ministerial license enables a minister to perform sacramental duties of the church. The license is bestowed on an individual after being recommended and completing the licensing course and interview.

2. The Ordination is the spiritual side of our licensing process. Ordination is bestowed on an individual after two years of faithful ministerial service.

Ordination is the setting apart of someone’s life for spiritual leadership and authority within the Body of Christ. It is a culmination of the ministerial licensing process. We value ordination as a recognition of a lifelong call to ministry, affirmed by both the minister being presented for ordination and those in spiritual authority over his/her life. The practice of ordaining, or setting apart, leaders and equippers within the church is rooted in scripture from the beginnings of the early church (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; 1 Thessalonians 5:12).

One of the Greek words translated *ordain* means, “to select by the stretching forth of the hand” (Acts 14:23). Through the ordination service and the laying-on of hands, we affirm ministers for the increasing weight of spiritual leadership (Acts 6:3).