



International Presbyterian Church

IPC Candidates & Credentials Committee Elder Application Form

1. Personal History

- 1.1 Please relate how you came to faith in Christ, and the most important influences on your growth as a Christian.
- 1.2 What has brought you into ministry, and to seek ordination to the presbyterate?
- 1.3 What has brought you to seek ordination in the IPC?
- 1.4 Have you been ordained, or examined for ordination, in another church body in the past? If so, please give details.
- 1.5 Please provide a brief account of your family situation, past and present. If you are married, is your wife supportive of you pursuing ordination as an elder?
- 1.6 Is there any information about you or your background of which we should be aware (e.g. particular experiences, health considerations)?

2. Suitability for eldership

- 2.1 Using the criteria set out in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, please describe briefly your suitability for eldership and how you are growing in these areas. Where do you feel most confident, and where do you feel most deficient?
- 2.2 What experience do you have of:
 - *Personal evangelism?*
 - *Bible teaching?*
 - *Pastoral care for people in difficult situations? Give an example if possible.*

3. Philosophy of ministry

- 3.1 What do you consider to be the role and duties of Teaching and Ruling Elders?

3.2 How should a church relate to its surrounding culture?

3.3 What is congregational worship and what is its place in the life of the church?

4. Theology

4.1 What is the *gospel* ?

4.2 What is the significance of the *resurrection*?

4.3 What does 'Trinity' mean? How are the members of the Trinity the same and how are they different?

4.4 Outline what the *incarnation* means and why it matters.

4.5 What is *grace*?

4.6 What is the place of the *Law of God* in the Christian life?

4.7 What is the place of '*covenant*' in the Bible?

4.8 What do '*election*' and '*predestination*' mean?

4.9 What does it mean to be theologically '*Reformed*' ?

4.10 What is the *church* ?

4.11 What kind of book is the *Bible* and why did God give it to us?

4.12 What does the *Holy Spirit* do today? What evidence shows he is at work in the life of an individual believer and in the life of the church?

4.13 What is *expository preaching* and what is its place in the church?

4.14 What are the *sacraments* and what is their place in the church?

4.15 Should *infants be baptised*? Why or why not?

4.16 Should children take the Lord's Supper? Why or why not?

4.17 What do you believe concerning *church membership* and *church discipline*?

4.18 Why do we have a *Confession of Faith* ?

4.19 How do the *roles of men and women* differ in the church?

4.20 Is *Pelagianism* a danger in the church today?