

the spirit of God gives the utterance (Acts 2:38).

2. Have the spirit of a servant (Mark 10:35-45; Luke 22:24-26).
3. Gentle, with the ability to make people feel at ease.
4. Respectable, cheerful, and loving.
5. Fervent in performing his/her duties (Romans 12:11), which includes asking visitors for their background and immediately asking the pastor where they should be seated, if they are other church leaders or government officials.
6. Know who should sit where in the church. He/she should know how to arrange people in an orderly manner.
7. Have a knowledge of mathematics. This will enable him/her to correctly count the people and the offering.
8. Should come to church before the congregation starts to arrive (1 Chronicles 9:27). Don't be on time, be early.
9. Be prayerful.
10. Should be a person with principles.
11. A student of human nature (know how to get along with people).
12. Love people ... that includes ALL races.

Other Points to Remember:

(Adapted from Ushers and Greeters by John C. Maxwell)

1. Be freshly bathed
2. No chewing gum
3. Clothes and hair neat
4. Shoes cleaned and shined
5. Have a pleasant smile
6. Do not carry on distracting conversations with other ushers

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The Ministry of the Usher

Doorkeepers



in the
of God

House

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Definition:

Usher: A person who shows people their seats in a theater, church, etc; to escort; show.

The word “usher” came into English about 600 years ago from French “Uissier”, and can be traced back to Latin “Ostium”, meaning “door”.

Historical Background in Scripture:

In the Bible, the word, “porter” is used for the modern word, “usher”. In other portions of Scripture you will find the word, “doorkeeper”.

“For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness “ (Psalm 84:10).

Ushering is a dignified job and therefore should be greatly desired. It originated during the days of Moses (1 Chronicles 9:16-26).

Who is an Usher?

1. An usher brings others into the presence of the Holy God and tells them where to stand, sit, and/or to act in an orderly and proper manner, “I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem” (Psalm 122:1-2).
2. An usher is a porter, “And the watchman saw another man running: and the watchman called unto the porter, and said, Behold another man running alone. And the king said, He also bringeth tidings” (2 Samuel 18:26), and “For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch” (Mark 13:34).
3. An usher is a pastor’s attendant, “To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out” (John 10:3).
4. An usher is an official of the church, (1 Chronicles 23:4-6; 9:26).
5. An usher is a “John the Baptist”, preparing people to see Jesus.

6. A model—an usher is visible to the people, and people do what they see.

NOTE: A committee of ushers headed by a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, is recommended (1 Chronicles 9:16-28).

The number of ushers in each assembly will depend on the size of the assembly. The secretary of the ushering committee is answerable to the church secretary and pastor (he/she gives the church attendance, and the offering to the church secretary or person designated by the pastor at the close of every service).

Duties of Ushers:

1. To show people their seats in the church.
2. To make an orderly arrangement of the people during collection of offering.
3. To check (count) the offering and make a report to the secretary or designate, who in turn recounts and does recording of the same.
4. To sweep and clean the house of the Lord.
5. To keep watch during congregational prayer time.
6. To assist the pastor as needed.

Dress Code of Ushers:

It is difficult to prescribe a particular dressing style for ushers because churches differ in so many ways when it comes to dressing. Some prefer white clothing, others blue, and other churches may even use any ordinary clothes. The leadership of each church should decide what colour of clothes their ushers will use. The only warning is that dressing should be modest and in keeping with a good standard of holiness. It is important for ushers to dress in a unique and distinct manner to enable visitors and members to easily recognize them as ushers. Some churches use badges. Others may use ID cards.

Major Expectations of an Usher:

1. Born again (John 3:1-6), that is, he/she must be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ by immersion, and filled with the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues as