

# NEW WORK/MISSION/CHURCH

Apostolic Assembly of the Faith in Christ Jesus  
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## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to define and establish what pertains to New Works, Missions, and Churches. All the Districts need to take note of this agreement, so that these general principles that normalize the establishment of new works and the development that they need to have are observed in all zones.

This document was formed from the different documents that some of the Districts have drafted regarding the establishment of Churches.

After studying the need to set uniform guidelines on this topic, we are presenting a new concept with the purpose of deciphering the question of the difference between a New Work, Mission and Church. With this end in mind, we are recommending that this be considered in three parts. We believe that if we view the issue in this manner, we will be able to clear up any dilemma.

## I. NEW WORKS

### A. Who can establish a New Work?

1. The Bishop needs to promote the opening of New Works.
2. The Pastor can establish New Works.
3. A Minister can ask the Pastor to be able to open a New Work.
4. The arbitrary opening of a New Work by a Minister will not be permitted.

### B. How do New Works operate?

1. New Works can be sponsored by a Local Church, Sector, District or by the National Board.
2. The Minister that attends to a New Work shall be considered a "Minister-in-Charge".
3. They will be given a year probation, and will then be evaluated. If and extension is merited, it shall be granted.
4. They will not proselytize [*recruit members from other Churches*].

5. Ministers-in-Charge will not be able to grant letters of recommendations or transfer, nor receive members from other Churches, without the authorization of the respective Pastor.
6. The economic obligations and activities of New Works will be the sponsoring Local Church, and these arrangements will be made between the Pastor and the Minister-in-Charge.
7. Ministers-in-Charge will attend the meeting and activities of the Sector and Districts.
8. When a New Work has officiated twenty baptisms, then the New Work will be able to petition to receive Mission status.
9. Whenever a New Work is opened, the distance between one Church and another must be considered. It is recommended that this distance be 3.5 miles in a metropolitan are.

## **II. MISSIONS**

### **A. How and when is a Mission established?**

1. When a New Work has baptized twenty members, the Bishop, Elder and Pastor will make the necessary arrangements to declare it a Mission.
2. The Bishop, Elder and Pastor will make the decision to name whoever presided over the new work as a “Pastor-in-Charge”, or if needed, another Minister shall be named to take his place.
3. The Mission shall assume the following responsibilities.
  - a. The tithes of tithes shall be sent monthly to the General Treasury.
  - b. The tithes of the Pastor-in-Charge shall be sent monthly to the District Treasury.
  - c. The Biblical Expositor of the Apostolic Assembly will be used.
  - d. Sunday School shall be established.
  - e. Local Treasurers shall be named, who will have the appropriated books for the records of the Mission.

- f. Under the immediate supervision, they will consider the option to buy a place of meeting.
  - g. The Pastor-in-Charge shall continue attending the meetings and activities of the Sector and the District.
  - h. An authorized local fund shall be created.
4. They will not proselytize the nearby Apostolic Churches. They shall not invite members of the nearby churches nor their Ministers.
  5. They shall still be under the authority of a Pastor, Elder or Bishop, depending on who sponsored the Mission.
  6. Arrangements for visits and activities with the mother church will be made between the Pastor and the Pastor-in-Charge.

### **III. CHURCHES**

#### **A. How and when is a Church established?**

1. The Bishop, Elder and Pastor can make the request. The District Board will evaluate the request and determine if the Mission meets the requirements to be named Church.
2. The Pastor-in-Charge can also make the request to the District Board with the approval of the Mission's sponsor.
3. The factor that will determine the evaluation will be the following: the purchase of a building, membership, time in existence, economic strength and fulfillment of the obligations.
4. As a Church, they will be responsible in implementing our organization, doctrinal and economic system.
5. Sunday School and the Men's, Women's, Youth and Junior Auxiliary Groups shall be established. The local government shall be established and the Secretary and Treasure shall be named as stipulated in our Constitution.
6. The Pastor of the Church will be able to extend letters of recommendation and transfer, and be able to celebrate all the ceremonies of the church.

7. The tithes of tithes will be sent monthly to the General Treasury and the Pastoral tithes to the District Treasurer.
8. Attendance is required at all the Sector, District and National meetings and activities.
9. The Biblical Expositor shall be implemented in Sunday School.
10. One year shall be given to the Church and Pastor to fulfill all of their obligations, and afterward an evaluation will be made to determine if the work continues as a Church, returns to Mission status, or if an extension is granted to allow further time comply. The evaluation will also determine if the Minister continues as a Pastor or if another is established in his stead.