

**ABCOPAD COMMISSION ON MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP**  
**SAMPLE VOWS OF LICENSURE OR ORDINATION**

\_\_\_\_\_, do you believe that you are called by God to be a minister of the Lord Jesus Christ?

*I believe, God being my Helper.*

Moved by your love of God and humanity and by a sincere desire to proclaim the Gospel of God's Son, are you now ready to take upon you this Holy ministry and faithfully serve in it?

*I am ready, God being my Helper.*

Will you tend the flock of Christ committed to your care, taking the oversight thereof not by constraint, but willingly, not for worldly gain, but that all persons be made free in Christ?

*I will, God being my Helper.*

Will you preach the Word of the ever-living God, proclaim the gospel of Christ, and faithfully administer the ordinances, seeking to lead the people into the presence, power and grace of God? Will you share with them the truth of God as contained in the Scriptures, and strive in all ways to bring them to the way of life which is Christ, that they may be found in Him and claimed for service in His Kingdom?

*I will so endeavor, God being my Helper.*

Do you promise to be diligent in prayer, in the reading of the Scriptures, and in such studies and devotions as will increase your knowledge of God and God's Kingdom?

*I do so promise, God being my Helper.*

Will you endeavor in the strength and grace of Jesus Christ our Lord, to live a life of sincere discipleship, to be loyal to the call of duty, and faithfully discharge all the work of the ministry entrusted to you?

*I will so endeavor, God being my Helper.*

Do you accept the faith and order of the American Baptist Churches, and promise to be loyal to this fellowship, that it may more and more be a fruitful branch of the church universal; and, while cherishing Christian love toward all faithful followers of Christ everywhere, do you engage in labor earnestly that the purity, peace and strength of this your chosen church may be increased?

*I do so engage, God being my Helper.*