

# HELPING *INSPIRE* MINISTRIES H.I.M.

PO Box 634 Broken Arrow, OK 74013

A Floating Axe Head



The Symbol of God's Ability to Provide and Sustain

# APPLICATION

## **Our Vision:**

The vision of Helping Inspire Ministries is to connect with ministers at all levels of development ranging from those just getting started in public ministry to those who have well-established ministries. Rev. Elizabeth Pruitt-Sloan and the officers of H.I.M. are seasoned ministers who understand firsthand the joys and challenges that are present in every stage of ministry. Our particular focus is to connect with ministers who are just getting started in ministry, providing a source for fellowship, networking, instruction, and mentoring.

## **Who We Are:**

Helping Inspire Ministries is a division of Elizabeth Pruitt Ministries, a 501(c)3 Christian church and ministry association organized as a non-profit organization under the laws of the State of Oklahoma and recognized by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit organization.

## **General Statement Concerning Joining H.I.M.:**

A ministry association is a spiritual family. Every family has a head, which in the case of Helping Inspire Ministries now and for the foreseeable future is our Founder and President, Rev. Elizabeth Pruitt-Sloan. Helping Inspire Ministers is an outgrowth of the vision the Lord put in Elizabeth's heart years ago. We who have joined H.I.M. have seen the wisdom and consistency of her leadership, the genuineness of her anointing, and agree with the Statement of Beliefs and vision of H.I.M. As individual H.I.M. members we labor together to build up and further each other's ministries, while receiving from the leadership of H.I.M., and pursuing our individual mandates and ministry goals.

H.I.M. offers its members the opportunity to receive knowledgeable advice, oversight, and mentoring from Sister Elizabeth and from other seasoned H.I.M. leaders to whatever extent this is desired. Membership in H.I.M. allows individuals to fellowship with like-minded ministers, to collaborate, and to encourage each other while working together within the overall vision of H.I.M. We ask you to prayerfully read our Statement of Beliefs and the other sections of this handbook before joining H.I.M.

### **Requirements for Participation in H.I.M.:**

- You must be a born-again Christian and filled with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues.
- You must be at least 21 years of age.
- You must have received some form of ministerial training beyond personal Bible reading. Acceptable training includes: attendance at a bible school or training center, theological study by mail or over the internet from an accredited institution, seminary studies, hands on experience in a local church or a personal mentoring relationship with a well-established minister that can be attested to by others. In some cases, H.I.M. may accept very extensive ministry experience from a minister with a long-established ministry. But this is the exception, not the rule.
- You must be living a life that is set apart from the world and sin, and must evidence a dedication to the call of God on your life. The following characteristics or activities are not acceptable for an H.I.M. minister: dishonesty, sex outside of marriage, homosexuality or lesbianism, use of illegal drugs, strife, slander, use of tobacco, liquor, sowing discord among the brethren, cursing, gambling, and other practices inconsistent with the purity and integrity required of a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- You must be in agreement with the Statement of Beliefs and policies of H.I.M. as detailed in this document.
- You must have a desire to win the Lost and a teachable spirit.

### **Recommendations and References:**

H.I.M. believes that God's greatest venue for reaching the lost and instructing believers is the local church. We seek to support, not circumvent, the leadership of the local church. We believe the pastor of the local church is the best person to decide if an applicant is ready or not ready for the step of licensing or ordination. We look more favorably on applicants who provide a letter of recommendation from the pastor of the local church where they attend. However, we also realize that an applicant may face circumstances that make a pastoral recommendation difficult or impossible to attain. For instance, the applicant may live in a small town or isolated region in which there is no Spirit-filled church to attend, or perhaps the pastor has died, become incapacitated, or has been removed from the pulpit due to misconduct, and a new pastor has not yet been installed. In these and other rare cases, H.I.M. is willing to accept a letter of recommendation from a church elder or seasoned minister. If you are serving as a pastor, you may provide a letter from an elder or other minister.

## **Geography:**

H.I.M. is not an ordination mill providing phony credentials to anyone paying a required fee. Nor is H.I.M. an indifferent organization that provides credentials to an applicant along with a listing in a membership directory, and then forgets the member afterwards. H.I.M. is a well-established and respected organization that offers legitimate ministry credentials to applicants who desire to come under H.I.M.'s oversight and can meet the membership requirements. The leadership of H.I.M. desires to know every member, connect with each minister, and build up and network with every member ministry. This desire for personal and direct contact with each member cannot always be accomplished when the applicant is a great distance from the USA.

H.I.M. is headquartered in the United States and our main focus at this time is on connecting with ministers in this country. As H.I.M. continues to grow, we plan to carefully expand our membership to include countries outside the United States, appointing regional and countrywide representatives as we are able to solidify the ministry infrastructure necessary to know individuals and ministries in other countries. At this time, applications coming from outside the USA and Canada are considered on a case-by-case basis. If you are outside the USA or Canada we suggest you contact H.I.M. and discuss your situation before filing a formal application for membership.

## **Options For Participation in H.I.M.:**

**Licensing**—is the appropriate first step for an applicant who is just starting out in public ministry, for those who serve in the ministry of helps without a public preaching or teaching ministry. Once licensed, you can be considered for full ordination within one to three years after your ministry track record is established.

**Ordination**—is available for individuals in a variety of situations: One, if the applicant has several years of public ministry experience or has ordination papers through another organization and wishes to carry dual credentials through H.I.M. Two, if the applicant regularly conducts services as a pastor or church leader. Three, if the applicant travels and holds services. Ordination can be applied for also by individuals in similar ministry situations.

**Membership**—is available for individuals who wish to continue carrying their primary ordination papers through another organization that will permit participation in other organizations like H.I.M., and for those in the ministry of helps who do not anticipate being in a public teaching or preaching ministry in the near future.

## **Concerning this Application:**

We realize emerging ministers may not have advanced seminary degrees, bible school diplomas, or extensive experience in ministry. In considering your application, what is lacking in one area may be made up for by strengths in other areas. Acceptance for membership in H.I.M. is based on the overall picture of your life, qualifications, education, and experience in ministry. This application is confidential and will be seen only by Rev. Elizabeth Pruitt-Sloan and appropriate elders and officers of H.I.M. Please keep in mind that we consider honesty to be an absolute necessity in every H.I.M. member. In filing out this application, please tell the truth. Exaggerate nothing. Leave out nothing pertinent. Acceptance for ordination or membership in H.I.M. is not automatic. However, we do not look for excuses to keep you out of H.I.M. We look for ways to connect with you, and bring you in.

## **What We Believe**

Please read the following Statement of Beliefs and policies carefully.

## H.I.M. STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

**THE SCRIPTURES**—The Bible is the inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God. Holy men of old wrote all sixty-six books of the Bible while being carried-along (that is, inspired) by the Holy Spirit. The New Covenant, as recorded in the New Testament, we accept as our infallible guide in matters pertaining to conduct and doctrine (2 Tim. 3:16, 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

**THE GODHEAD**—The word “Trinity” never appears in the Bible, though the doctrine clearly does. The Bible tells us that there is but one God (Deut. 6:4; Mark 12:29); there are no others (Zech. 14:9). The Bible clearly stresses the unity of God. Yet this teaching is not inconsistent with the doctrine of the Trinity, which states there is indeed one essence, yet three persons of the Trinity that do indeed share this divine essence. God the Father is the First Person of the Trinity, God the Son (Jesus), the Second Person; and God the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Trinity. The three Persons of the Trinity are equal, having only a functional subordination, e.g., Jesus was subordinate—in function—to the Father while on earth. The Holy Spirit proceeds forth from both the Father and the Son and is eternal exactly as is the Father and the Son (John 14:16; John 15:26).

**MAN, HIS FALL AND REDEMPTION**—Man is a created being, made in the likeness and image of God, but through Adam's transgression and the Fall, sin came into the world. The Bible says, “. . . all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God,” and “. . . There is none righteous, no, not one.” (Rom. 3:10; 3:23). Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was manifested to undo the works of the devil and gave His life and shed His blood to redeem and restore man back to God (Rom. 5:14; 1 John 3:8). Salvation is the gift of God to man, separate from works and the Law. Salvation is a result of God's grace being received by man through faith in Jesus Christ. It (salvation) produces works acceptable to God (Eph. 2:8-10). Works are not the cause of salvation, but works are a result of salvation.

**ETERNAL LIFE AND THE NEW BIRTH**—Man's first step toward salvation is a change of mind (repentance). The “new birth” (to be born again, or, to be born from above) is a necessary factor for any person to become part of the Kingdom of God. When salvation is experienced, it produces a new life (2 Cor. 7:10; John 3:3-5; 1 John 5:12).

**WATER BAPTISM**—We believe that “water baptism” ought to be by the mode of immersion. Water baptism is a direct commandment of our Lord, and is for believers only. We call it “believer’s baptism.” This ordinance is a symbol of the Christian’s identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection (Matt. 28:19; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12; Acts 8:36-39). We use the following baptismal formula; “On the confession of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and by His authority, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen.”

**BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT**—The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a gift from God as promised by the Lord Jesus Christ to all believers in this dispensation. This experience is received subsequent to the new birth. This experience is accompanied by the initial evidence of speaking in other tongues as the Spirit Himself gives utterance (Matt.3:11; John 14:16, 17; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4; 2:38; 19:1-7).

**COMMUNION**—We believe in the Lord's Supper (communion) as an ordinance (not as a sacrament). As often as we observe this ordinance, we do so in remembrance of Jesus and his suffering, until He comes again (I Cor. 11:24-26).

**MARRIAGE**—God has ordained marriage as a contract between one man and one woman. It has been this way since the beginning. Through the institution of marriage (one man and one woman) the human race is continued. Homosexual (so-called) marriages have never throughout the history of the Christian church been accepted as “a choice.” It is outside of the Christian Church’s practice and policy. Marriage is a desirable state for any who enter into this contract. However, the state of being a single person, does not in any way, lessen one’s status in the sight of God. God loves, calls, and uses people in the marital state in which God finds him or her. God uses single people, divorced people, people who have been married more than once, widows and widowers, in His church and Kingdom work. From a spiritual perspective, one’s status in matrimony does not qualify nor disqualify one from fulfilling the call of the Lord on his/her life.

**SANCTIFICATION**—The Bible teaches that without holiness no man can see the Lord. We believe in the Doctrine of Sanctification as a definite work (it happens at the time of the “new birth”) and also as a progressive work of grace (a growing in the faith). Sanctification continues until the consummation of salvation at Christ's return (Heb. 12:14; 1 Thess. 5:23; 2 Peter 3:18; 2 Cor. 3:18; Phil. 3:12-14; 1 Cor. 1:30).

**DIVINE HEALING**—Healing is for the physical ills of the human body and is wrought by the power of God through a number of different methodologies. Healing comes sometimes by the faith of the one who is being healed. Other times, it comes from the faith of others associated somehow with the one being healed. At times, it is manifested as believers practice the laying on of hands, or anointing with oil. A beautiful way healing sometimes comes is through the “gifts of healings” (plural), as stated in 1 Corinthians. When this happens, faith is not necessarily a part of it, God just, by His own grace, through no known reason by man, administers a healing to the individual He has chosen to bestow His gift upon. This is a beautiful thing to behold and we are indeed thankful for God's demonstration of power in this way. Healing by trusting the Lord in faith is a privilege in which every member of the Church today can participate (James 5:14; Mark16:18).

**SPIRITUAL GIFTS**—We believe in the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit as outlined in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10. These gifts are to be used for the “common good” (1 Cor. 12:7). These special endowments never become a possession of individuals, but they operate for the common good of the church through the instrumentality of human beings, as the Spirit of God wills. Those desiring spiritual gifts should be open to the drawing of the Spirit and open to being a vessel as God directs. Therefore, if the Holy Spirit chooses to flow through a believer in this special anointing, that believer should step-out by faith and follow His directions in these matters. At the same time, we realize that we must also be respectful of those who are spiritual leaders. Therefore, we encourage those working in spiritual gifts in the church to consult with and be submissive to those in leadership. God is not the author of confusion and desires spiritual gifts to be manifested in an orderly manner (1 Cor. 14). When spiritual gifts are practiced in this fashion, the whole body of believers can receive a “special blessing.”

**RESURRECTION OF THE JUST AND THE RETURN OF OUR LORD**—The angels said to Jesus' disciples, ". . . This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." His coming is imminent (that is, He can come at anytime). When He comes, "The dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air . . . (Acts 1:11; 1 Thess. 4:16, 17). This event is usually referred to as, the Rapture of the Church. For seven years, God's people will be in heaven, where they will worship God and experience wonderful things beyond which "one cannot even imagine." As a part of this time, New Testament saints will receive their rewards for how well they performed in their Christian life on earth. We call this judgment, "The Judgment Seat of Christ." However, it may be better described as "the Reward's Banquet" in heaven.

After the catching away of the church, there will be a period of tribulation on earth (7 years). Following the Tribulation, He shall return to earth as King of kings, and Lord of lords, and together with His saints, who shall be kings and priests, He shall reign a thousand years (Rev. 5:10; 20:6). We call this the Millennium. During this period of time the saints will rule and reign with Christ for a thousand years.

After the Millennium, there will be a general resurrection of all nonbelievers to be judged according to their works, which must include the work of rejecting Christ, or God's plan for salvation, by those who lived prior to Christ's sacrifice on the cross. This judgment is, "the Great White Throne Judgment." At this judgment, all nonbelievers will be cast away from God for eternity.

**ETERNAL RETRIBUTION**—The one who physically dies in his sins without accepting Christ is hopelessly and eternally lost in the lake of fire and, therefore, has no further opportunity of hearing the Gospel or repenting. The lake of fire is literal. The terms "eternal" and "everlasting," used in describing the duration of the punishment of the damned in the lake of fire, carry the same thought and meaning of endless existence as used in denoting the duration of joy and ecstasy of saints in the Presence of God (Heb 9:27; Rev. 19:20).

**ETERNAL BLISS**—After the GWT Judgment, believers will experience a New Heavens and The New Earth. In this bliss, believers will spend eternity in God's presence, where there will be nothing negatively, ever experienced again. All things will be perfect.

(12-9)

# H.I.M. MINISTRY POLICIES

## **Finances:**

We do not wish for financial limitations to be a barrier to anyone joining H.I.M. Therefore, we keep the application fee, and the yearly fees as low as possible. We ask you to keep this fact in mind and that you take the extra step of partnering with H.I.M. and Elizabeth Pruitt Ministries at \$25, \$50, \$100, or whatever amount you can regularly afford to give on a monthly basis. Sowing on a monthly basis into H.I.M. provides a predictable level of financial support upon which we base our budget.

## **Participation:**

In joining H.I.M., you are joining a spiritual family. We ask that you do your best to meet and network with fellow H.I.M. members. Currently we have a yearly meeting in late April in Collinsville, OK. If at all possible, please come to the annual meeting. With the dramatic growth of H.I.M. we are looking into scheduling additional regional meetings that we hope you will be able to attend. Attending such meetings allows us to get to know you and you have the opportunity to get to know your leadership. You can also meet your leadership and fellow H.I.M. members at Sister Elizabeth's monthly "Holy Spirit Meeting" in Collinsville, OK.

Upon acceptance into H.I.M. you will be given a directory of H.I.M. members listing their locations, contact information, and the types of ministry in which they are involved. Your name will be added to this directory also. If you are a pastor or an individual hosting a meeting, we ask that you prayerfully consider inviting as speakers different H.I.M. ministers you have come to know. Likewise, if you are a traveling minister, we ask that in your travels you contact nearby H.I.M. pastors and ministers and introduce yourself to them. Even if you are not invited to hold a meeting while you are in the area, you can begin building a relationship of friendship and trust for future ministry collaboration.

### **Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity Policy:**

It is the policy of Helping Inspire Ministries to consider all applications for membership, and to promote individuals to levels of greater responsibility within this organization, without regard to race, color, national origin, or gender. H.I.M. members are prohibited from membership in, or participation in, groups or organizations that exclude from their membership, or work against, individuals based on race, color, national origin, or gender.

### **Dismissal From Helping Inspire Ministries:**

When it came time for Moses to name Joshua as his successor, the Lord instructed Moses to bring Joshua before congregation of Israel and:

...put some of thine honor upon him.—Num. 27:20.

Licensing, Ordination, or Membership in H.I.M. is an honor that seasoned leaders and fellow ministers extend to you. It is a privilege, not a right. Any serious accusations against an H.I.M. member will be thoroughly looked into by the leadership of H.I.M., with a mind to get to the truth without fear or favor, and with a redemptive purpose in mind. Any minister's practice of sin that becomes a lifestyle will be dealt with. If the accusations prove to be false, we will give thanks to God.

If the accusations are proven to be true, the first criteria that will be used to judge and to determine disciplinary action for ministry misconduct will be the Scriptures. The Second criteria will be the leading of the Holy Spirit. The third criteria will be the severity of the sin or offense. The fourth criteria will be the errant H.I.M. minister's attitude of heart. Where there is genuine repentance and sorrow, restoration to ministry and continued licensing, ordination, or membership in H.I.M. remains possible. However, if the offense is severe and/or there is no repentance, there will be disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from H.I.M.

## APPLICATION

Your last name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse last name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

(If your spouse is also seeking ordination or membership in H.I.M. please have them fill out a separate form).

Name of your ministry \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Current Marital Status  Married  Divorced  Separated  Single

Your age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Church You Attend \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### **Current Ministry Status:**

Full time  Part time  Full time, but work a job  Just starting

**I am seeking in H.I.M.:**

Licensing  Ordination  Membership

**Please check all types of ministry you are involved in or called to:**

Preacher  Pastor  Teacher  Evangelist  Apostolic/Missionary

Prophetic  Prayer/ Intercession  Elder  Deacon  Chaplain

Musician/Praise Leader  Prison Ministry  Motorcycle Ministry

Outreach  Ladies Ministry  Men's Ministry  Children's Ministry

Youth Ministry  Lay Leader  Street Witness  Usher/Greeter

Helps  Internet  Blog  Podcasting  Christian media

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us of any direct ministry experience you have such as indicated in the areas you have checked above. Also, tell us if you have held public services, led a bible study, or participated in leadership in some form in the church you attend:

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Are you born again? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No Do you speak in tongues? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

Please give us a brief description of your salvation experience including your age at the time and approximate date:

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Please give us a brief description of your experience in being filled with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues including your age at the time and approximate date:

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Please provide a brief description of your call to the ministry. How did you come to know that you were called to public ministry? Including your age at the time and approximate date:

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**The following information will be kept strictly confidential:**

Please check any of the following that you are currently involved in or using:

the occult  psychic power  non-Christian religions  homosexuality  
 lesbianism  illegal drugs  alcohol  tobacco  immorality

Is there anything in your life right now that is unbiblical or inconsistent with biblical standards of holiness and purity expected of a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been incarcerated?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Education:**

Have you completed:

High School  GED  Technical School  Some college  University  
 Seminary  Other, please detail \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Degrees Attained:**

Bachelors  Masters  PhD  Other Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**Employment:**

Please detail some of your employment experience. You are welcome to submit your resume' also.

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Explain briefly why you are seeking to join H.I.M.:

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Are you currently ordained? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

Through whom\_\_\_\_\_

Will they object to you being a member of H.I.M.? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

Any other pertinent information or comments:

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\_\_\_I have read the H.I.M. statement of faith and am in agreement with it.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

**Please see the next page for a checklist of items to include with your application.**

**Checklist Please Include:**

\_\_\_Pages 11 - 16 of this application form, with your signature.

\_\_\_A recent picture of yourself 5 x 7 or smaller.

\_\_\_The \$25.00 application fee by check or money order, if you live in the United States. If outside the USA, please submit the \$25.00 in USD in a travelers check, money order through a major institution, or we can arrange for you to send the amount to H.I.M. by PayPal.

If your application is approved, the yearly membership renewal fee will be \$50.00 per member, or \$75.00 for husband and wife. The appropriate amount for the first year's membership should be paid upon receipt of your credentials. In December of each year, a renewal form will be sent to you, and we ask that you complete the form, and include the appropriate payment by January 31<sup>st</sup> of the coming year. Upon receipt of the completed form and yearly fee, a letter and/or membership card will be sent to you.

\_\_\_A teaching tape or CD of you preaching or teaching, or a book or article you have written—if you have one—that can give us an example of your ministry.

\_\_\_Two letters of reference: A letter of recommendation from your pastor, or from a fellow minister that knows you well. A letter from an H.I.M. member, business associate, or friend who is a non-family member.

**Mail the signed and completed form and mail with checklist items to:**

**Mel Montgomery**

**PO Box 783**

**Joplin, MO 64802 USA e-mail: [mail@brothermel.com](mailto:mail@brothermel.com)**

Mel will ensure that the signed form and all required materials are present and in order. Then he will forward your packet to the H.I.M. office for the consideration of Rev. Elizabeth Pruitt-Sloan and the elders of H.I.M. A decision should be arrived at within approximately three to four weeks.

We look forward to hearing from you!

12-09