



Wailing Women Worldwide

International Conference Training For the Nations

Step Up and Be Equipped To Serve



USHERING

AN INDISPENSABLE SERVICE

DELIGHT UDOMA-MICHAELS (Mrs)

OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure that every Usher working in the conference has the adequate training needed to carry out their duties excellently.
2. To teach industry best practices as regards ushering.
3. To have conference Ushers who are spiritually minded.
4. To train Ushers par excellence.



TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

1. Writing materials
2. Holy Bible

WHO IS AN USHER?

- An Usher is a Spiritual Ambassador for the local church, conference; – God's ordained and organized body of believers.
- The usher serves as a first representative of Jesus Christ for a worship service.

THE ROLE OF USHER IN THE CHURCH/CONFERENCE

- In the Old Testament, Ushers were called door keepers.
- The Psalmist understood the importance of Ushers when he said, “Better is one day in God’s court than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a door keeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked”. (Psalm 84:10)

THE ROLE OF USHER IN THE CHURCH/CONFERENCE

- One of the purposes of door keepers was to receive offering from the people.

In 2Kings 22:4

- “Go up to the high priest and have him get ready the money that has been brought into the temple of the Lord, which the door keepers have collected from the people”.
- Jeremiah 35:4 – refers to one door keepers as a “man of God. He said – “And I brought them into the house of the Lord, into the chamber of the sons of Hanna, a man of God, the keeper of the door.

USHERS IN NEW TESTAMENT

- The disciples acted as Ushers on many occasions.
- They directed people who came to hear Jesus speak or be touched by His healing hands.
- When Jesus fed the 5,000, He told the disciples to organize the people by making them sit in 50s for a convenient serving of the unending loaves of bread and fishes to the hungry multitudes. (John 6:10)
- The character of these first deacons or Usher was clearly spelled out in the Bible. They were men of good or honest report. Full of the Holy Spirit, full of wisdom and full of faith.
- Stephen, the first Martyr on record was both a deacon and an Usher. (Acts 6:3-6)

USHERS IN NEW TESTAMENT

- Preachers, teachers and worship team minister to people in groups while Ushers minister to people as individuals. A word of encouragement or kindness may be the most significant ministry some people receive in a congregation. Only a few people get to meet the minister or pastor or choir members to ask them questions or talk with them. But everyone can have an encounter with a good Usher for they are more accessible.
- When you serve as an Usher, you set the state for worship experience.
- You are literally part of God's redemption. Your readiness and act of service plays a huge role in the life change that takes place that day in the conference or church.

THE ROLE OF AN USHER

- Prepare yourself spiritually
- Take initiative
- Absorb the pressure of the moment don't transfer it.
- Own your role
- Ushering is a part of a large experience.
- Working with other volunteer
- Ushering as part of a role – larger experience.

THE ROLE OF AN USHER

1. Before the conference meeting begins, the Ushers have the responsibility to make sure the hall of meeting is prepared. As the conferee arrives, the Ushers acts as door keepers greeting each person with a smile, shaking hands and directing them to their seating position. They are also available to answer visitors.
2. Ushers have a role to help minimize distractions during the conference.
3. Ushers stand ready to assist anyone or a conferee that might need help.

THE ROLE OF AN USHER

4. Ushers aid latecomers in finding a seat and to inform those in the conference of any urgent matters.
5. Ushers help with communion.
6. Ushers should be well – versed in emergency procedures in case of an emergency, the ushers will take the lead in getting people to safety in an orderly manner.
7. After the day's meeting, Ushers are expected to stay back to provide assistance as needed and make sure the place of meeting is closed.

SPIRITUAL QUALIFICATIONS OF AN USHER

Ushers are not just door keepers and greeters, they serve in a spiritual role and therefore should exhibit some spiritual characteristics.

QUALITIES OF A GODLY USHER

1. The fruit of the spirit found in Galatians 5:22 is a solid guideline for a good usher. This is not about perfection but a heartfelt motive and desire to live a life of a spirit filled believer.
2. Love – In 1 Corinthians 13:13 – It talks about faith, hope and love. That love is the greatest of these gifts. If you choose to genuinely love the person you serve as an Usher, God will bless your actions.
3. Joy – Take God seriously, but don't take yourself too seriously. Lighten up and enjoy the moment. Your spirit will be contagious to others. If you are cold, aloof and don't smile basically, if you are a grumpy usher you will discourage others around you.
4. Peace – you can add peace, calm and order to what might otherwise be an overwhelming and hectic experience.

QUALITIES OF A GODLY USHER

5. **Patience** – This is a great quality of a good Usher. Most of us are impatient by nature. E.g many of the people have traveled a long journey, tired and exhausted. May have stood a while for registration, or for one thing or the other. Their patience will be running thin; you can set a good example with your patience towards them.
6. **Kindness** – This is the attitude that makes you approachable as an Usher. Going the extra mile can make all the difference in the world! Be imaginative. Think of all the ways you could show kindness to someone as they come to the conference.
7. **Goodness** – The inner quality of goodness is a gift that results from the Holy Spirit's power working within us. This state of being will naturally spill over into your service and bring an intangible but powerful presence into the worship or conference experience.

QUALITIES OF A GODLY USHER

8. **Faithfulness** – Faithfulness as a Christian bleeds over into your faithfulness as an Usher. Showing being responsible and doing your ministry well matters to everyone and it matters to God.
9. **Gentleness** – A mature Usher never throws around his or her authority. The best Usher is a humble one who seeks to put others first no matter how much pressure may be present in the moment.
10. **Self Control** – It is impossible to control a large crowd if we cannot control ourselves. In calm moments self control is easy. It's under the pressure of hectic moments and last minute changes that your grace self control will shine.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF AN USHER

1. When you serve at conference you are not 'just' a volunteer you are given responsibilities and expectations beyond performing basic tasks. Let's look at a few responsibility that may be a little unexpected.
2. A good Usher comes prepared mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. This is not to be seen as a duty, but a privilege to connect with God as part of your preparation. God is more interested in the commitment of your heart than the amount of your time. Take a few moments at home to connect with God (personally) and ask Him to use you as a representative of His love and agent of His redemptive plan. That is through your service as an Usher, somebody should be reconciled to God.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF AN USHER

3. This is huge. The cardinal sin of an Usher is not to pay attention, to be insensitive. At all times watch what is going on in section/ area and make effort to handle it. If you are not sure what to do, ask your leader (Head Usher). The only wrong choice you can make is to do nothing. Never assume someone else is taking care of the need. Pay attention, take initiative, do something about it, make it happen.
4. Most of the ministry of an Usher is pure joy. Cheerfulness is required. But on occasion there are moments of pressure.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF AN USHER

5. When someone is upset or something is not working right. In these moments never transfer the pressure to the person entering into the conference. An Usher is a leader, a minister. You absorb the pressure. Get help if need be, but never make the issue their problem (conference problem). You help deliver a solution.
6. In an average environment with average ushers, once the seats are filled, the Usher relaxes and mentally checks out. During the conference you are empowered to take ownership of your role and give leadership where needed. Consider yourself responsible for doing everything on your power to ensure that every person you interact with has the best opportunity possible to connect with and hear from God. You can shepherd the people by getting to know them, praying for them, learning their names and meeting appropriate needs.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF AN USHER

7. All good leaders are good followers. It is important that you follow the leadership of your ministry Leader. Be supportive and encouraging. Offer suggestions if you have good ideas but be overly sensitive if your ideas are not used.
8. An Usher in the Conference is a person who helps ensure a smoothly running conference and who minister to people in a variety of practical ways. The specific responsibilities of an Usher vary with the conference as the need arises. But their duties usually include greeting people as they arrive the conference, assisting people with special needs, and receiving the offering. Ushers should put a name tag or search for easy identification.



THANK YOU