


Committee on Christian Education Orthodox Presbyterian Church

Steps for men considering the gospel ministry in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church:

	Step 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become ORDAINED and INSTALLED via: • Satisfactory completion of academic requirements, including an adequate course study in a theological seminary, equivalent to that required for a regular three-year theological degree (<i>FG</i> 23.3); • Examinations by presbytery, as outlined in <i>FG</i> 23.6; • And an official service of ordination and installation, conducted by presbytery (<i>FG</i> 23.7-10) 	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Throughout the process, continue to implement Step 1 in as many practical ways as possible. Also, consider taking MTIOPC courses as a supplemental and continuing training.</p>
	Step 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request presbytery to approve the call and grant permission to accept it (<i>FG</i> 22.12d). When approved and granted, express desire to accept the call, ordinarily within three weeks (<i>FG</i> 22.14). 	
	Step 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive a call to ministerial service by a congregation, a presbytery, or the general assembly (<i>FG</i> 22.1). 	
	Step 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively seek a call to a specific ministerial task (<i>FG</i> 21.1,11). 	
	Step 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make trial of qualifications and service for the edification of the church, preferably through an approved year-long internship program. 	
	Step 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become LICENSED (<i>FG</i> 21.4-5) via: • Examinations by presbytery in the English Bible, ecclesiastical history, theology, and the original languages of the Scriptures; • Testimonials of piety, exemplary life, and personal zeal for and experience in presenting the gospel to others; and • Preparation of a sermon, an essay on a theological theme, and an exegesis of a Hebrew or Greek text of Scripture. 	
	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive a B.A degree, or its academic equivalent, from a college or university of reputable academic standing. • Complete an adequate course of study lasting a year and a half in a theological seminary (<i>FG</i> 21.3). 	
	Step 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be taken UNDER CARE OF A PRESBYTERY via: • A written recommendation from the session of the local congregation where you are a member, and • An examination by presbytery respecting your Christian faith, life, service, and the motives influencing you to desire the gospel ministry (<i>FG</i> 21.2). • <i>NOTE:</i> This step can be taken at any time before, during, or after college or seminary. 	
	Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivate a faithful walk with the Lord – in secret, in your family, and in your church. • Become an actively serving communicant member in an OPC congregation (<i>FG</i>* 21.2). • Read and begin applying the principles of <i>Called to the Ministry</i> by Edmund P. Clowney. • Tell your pastor and session of your aspiration and ask for opportunities to test your gifts and graces. 	

* *FG* = The OPC *Form of Government*, part of the OPC *Book of Church Order*