



CREDENTIALING INFORMATION BOOKLET

Dear RMAA Applicant,

We are pleased that you are considering being credentialed with Rhema Ministerial Association Australia.

There is a great work to be done in this region of the Earth as we prepare for the Coming of the Lord!

We are firmly convinced that when we come into agreement as the Body of Christ and develop functioning relationships, the whole Body grows and is supplied. (Ephesians 4:16)

We value your part in what God is doing in the Body of Christ and also what you can bring to the operation of RMAA in Australia.

RMAA has a number of credential options for your consideration. Read through this booklet to identify which option best suits you or could suit you in the future.

Should you have any questions or require clarification, please contact the RMAA Administrator on (07) 3208 6640.

Tony & Patsy Cameneti
RMAA Directors

ABOUT Rhema Ministerial Association Australia

In 1950, the Lord spoke to Kenneth E. Hagin and told him to “Go teach My people faith”, to activate the believer with the knowledge of who they are in Christ and how to be led by the Holy Spirit.

Rhema Bible College began in 1979 and since then multitudes of graduates and fellow believers have received from the ministry and teaching of Brother Hagin. Many of these have been called into ministry and are playing a major role preparing the Body of Christ for the last-days revival that will usher in the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

To help and support these ministers, Rhema Ministerial Association International was introduced in 1985. We are not alone in this work, but together we will do our part.

In 2010, Rhema Ministerial Association Australia was formed as an Australian counterpart to RMAI as well as an Australian legal denomination for servicing RBTC graduates eligible for ministry credentials.

RMAA also welcomes application for credentialing from non-Rhema graduates who are in the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, who have the same heart for ministry and are willing to adhere to RMAA’s Tenets of Faith and Code of Conduct.

The following prophecy, given by Kenneth E Hagin in May 1979 at Rhema's graduation, is pertinent to all those who walk and work together in the same heart and commission in RMAA:

What is that sound?
What is that sound that I hear?
It's the sound of many feet.
It's the sound of beautiful feet.
It's the sound of feet going forth with the Good News.

Who are these that make this sound
of tramp, tramp, tramp as they come—
as they go tramping along?
Who are these?

Yea, they are those chosen of the Lord, called of God, equipped by His Spirit.
Yea, they are those who have been loosed from the bondage of the enemy
and sent forth to set men free.
They're those with the story of redemption,
The story of freedom,
The story of the glory of God.

Who are these that go forth ever enlarging in number
and increasing in number?
Who are these?

Yea, they are those who do know their God.
They are those who do know His Word.
They are those who know the mighty Name—
The Name that's above every name,
The Name of Jesus.

They're those that know how to take that Name
And break the power of darkness over the lives,
The minds,
The bodies,
The spirits of men and set them free.

Yea, they are those with the message of deliverance,
the message of healing,
the message of victory,
the message of God.

Who are these?
From whence have they come?
Where are they going?
Yea, they come from the very bosom of the Father,
From the right hand of God.
For their Master, even the Lord Himself as He ascended on high,
gave gifts unto men.
And He gave some, apostles;
and some, prophets;
and some, evangelists;
and some, pastors, and teachers.

They come from the very throne of God—
From the right hand of authority.

Where are they going?
They're going unto the uttermost parts of the earth.
They're going where an empty hand is reaching out for help.
They're going where a hungry cry—hungry for the bread of this life,
and hungry for the true Bread of Life—
He's crying out for help.
They're going around the world to tell the story,
To proclaim the message,
To do the work that God called them to do.

RMAA VISION

We see a ministerial fellowship of likeminded ministers (both Rhema Graduates and others) who are committed to ministering the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Australia and surrounding nations and to take our part in preparing the Body of Christ for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

RMAA MISSION

To assist, resource and facilitate ministers of the Gospel in the work to which Jesus Christ has called them by:

1. Recognising a call to ministry and validating that with credentialing.
2. Gathering a network of ministers for fellowship and sharing of like-minded faith.
3. Providing a resource pool of ministers for replacements, interim placements and growth in local churches.
4. Providing support and counsel to help build strong, capable and ethical leadership in the Body of Christ.
5. Connecting ministers with relevant resources, support and training programs to help them in their continued spiritual growth as well as in ministry leadership.

RMAA CREDENTIALING OPTIONS

There are 4 options available for you to be credentialed with RMAA.

In order to receive credentialing, you must already be in a recognised ministerial position, have a recognised ministry or be moving into a ministry position.

Read the 4 options listed and determine which one describes your ministry. The RMAA Administrative Committee will make the final determination as to which option is the most valid for you at this time.

Should your ministry change function, you may apply to change from one credential type to another (see paragraph under “Other Considerations”).

1. Specialised Minister

This category consists of those who are ministering in a specialised area of ministry such as, but not limited to children, youth, worship, outreach, chaplaincy, prison or para-church organisation, etc.

This category of ministry is reflective of the gifts in Ephesians 4:11-12 rather than positions that are recreational, social care, clerical or administrative in nature.

For application, you will need to provide either:

- a. evidence of the program you are involved in, such as a letter from your Senior Pastor or program manager detailing your roles and responsibilities and your current position description
- OR
- b. a clear and definite schedule of proposed meetings or program in which to be engaged

Applicants for this option may begin with this credential option and move to the ordained credential after a period of 2 years if that is more appropriate.

Applicants may also remain in this credentialing status indefinitely if that is the best credential for operating in ministry.

Eligibility and Responsibility

- Be actively involved in the area of ministry identified for credentialing.
- Demonstrate an apparent call to the specialised area of ministry with a strong leadership element.
- Attend church regularly even if not rostered for ministry.
- Commitment to ongoing biblical study and an ever deepening relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Ensure fees and dues are paid annually.
- To live consistently and grow within the Ministry Ethics and Core Values of RMAA.

2. Licenced Minister

This category is for those who demonstrate a clear indication of a divine call and God-given ability that reflects the ministry gifts found in Ephesians 4:11-12. This applicant will also demonstrate a personal purpose to devote his/her life to the preaching of the Gospel and serving the Kingdom.

These applicants will be engaged in ministry that can be in the local church or beyond the local church.

For application, you will need to provide evidence of your ministry such as a schedule of meetings, or evidence of the program you are involved or a letter from your Senior Pastor or Program Manager, which outlines your role and ministry responsibilities within the program.

Applicants for this option may begin with this credential option and move to the ordained credential after a period of 2 years if that is deemed more appropriate.

This category may also allow the minister to apply to be registered to solemnise marriages within Australia, providing the minister is a resident of Australia. (see Other Considerations #4 Page 15)

Eligibility and Responsibility

- Be actively involved in the area of ministry identified for credentialing.
- Demonstrate an apparent call to teaching or preaching ministry with a strong leadership element
- Attend church regularly when not travelling or engaged in ministry.
- Ensure fees and dues are paid annually.
- Commitment to ongoing biblical study and an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus Christ.
- To live consistently and grow within the Ministry Ethics and Core Values of RMAA.

3. Ordained Minister

After a period of two years as a Specialised Minister or Licenced Minister applicants may apply for Ordained Minister credentials. This category is for those who have a demonstrated ministry gifting as described in Ephesians 4:11-12 either within the local church or beyond the local church.

Ministers who have previously been ordained in another recognised movement or organisation may, at the discretion of the RMAA Administrative Committee (with appropriate references and endorsement), be issued an Ordained Minister's Credential.

This category also allows the minister to apply to be registered to solemnise marriages within Australia, providing the minister is a resident of Australia (see Other Considerations #4 Page 15).

For application, you will need to provide evidence of your ministry such as a schedule of meetings, evidence of the program you are involved in, or a letter from your Senior Pastor or

Program Manager, which outlines your role and ministry responsibilities. If you are a Pastor of a church, a letter signed by 3-5 members of your congregation attesting to your position, church start date, location, service times etc.

Eligibility and Responsibility

- Be actively involved in the area of ministry identified for credentialing.
- Demonstrate a significant call to the area of ministry with a strong leadership element.
- Attend church regularly even if not involved in ministry.
- Commitment to ongoing biblical study and an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Ensure fees and dues are paid annually.
- To live consistently and grow within the Ministry Ethics and Core Values of RMAA.

4. Overseas Associate Minister

An Overseas Associate Minister is one who is living and ministering outside Australia. You may hold a credential with an accrediting body within your place of overseas residence, but you have also in the opinion of the Administrative Committee a distinct ministry and clear connectedness with the RMAA that makes the maintenance of the relationship advantageous.

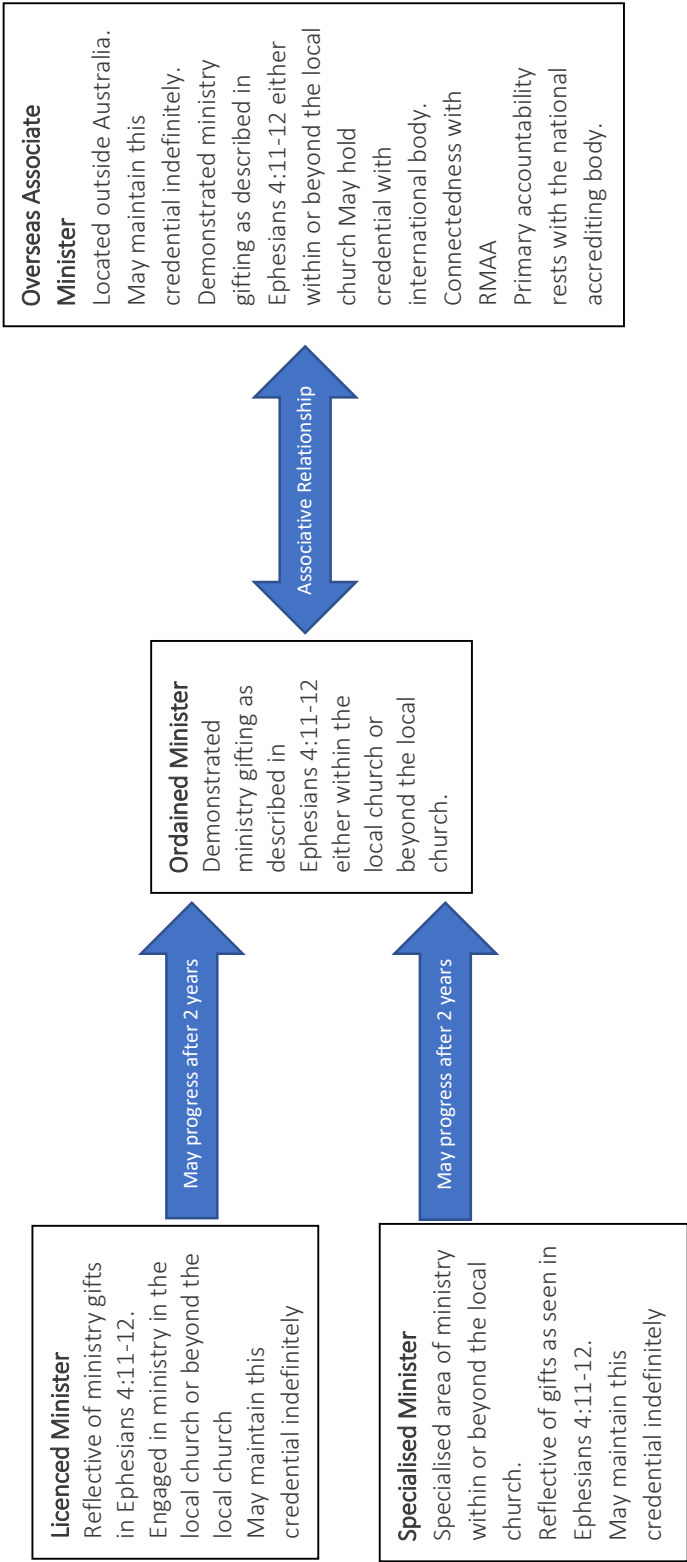
Your primary accountability will still rest with the accrediting body in your nation of residence and a credentialing with RMAA will be subject to the approval of your existing credentialing body.

This credentialing recognises you to preach or teach, minister in hospitals, jails and other government or non-government institution or facilities subject to obtaining the necessary permission from the local authorities in that country, and to perform most of the ministerial functions of a church including baptism and communion.

Eligibility and Responsibility

- Recognised ministry that would fit the criteria for either Licensed or Ordained Minister credentialing
- A satisfactory recommendation (as determined by the Administrative Committee) from another RMAA Minister.
- You will be subject to the same requirements pertaining to conduct and maturity as other credential holders within the Association.
- As an Overseas Associate Minister, you would not be entitled to be a Marriage Celebrant under the Association, as the country in which you minister would be outside the jurisdiction of the laws of Australia.
- To live consistently and grow within the Ministry Ethics and Core Values of RMAA.

Credentialed Chart – Progress and Intersection of Credentialed



CONSIDERATIONS FOR ELIGIBILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

We believe that ministers who live their lives openly before the Lord will benefit from self-evaluation and honest reflection of their own capabilities and challenges. Here are a few questions for you to consider in the light of the real challenges that occur in ministry and also in the light of the grace that is available to you.

- Do you have the agreement of your spouse, if married, and your church, to be in ministry?
- Are you willing to serve in the local church, in the local community?
- Do you demonstrate strength of character in dealing with people wisely, patiently and graciously?
- Are you willing to engage with RMAA and its vision and to serve in a broader capacity if requested?
- Do you demonstrate maturity and emotional stability in carrying out the responsibilities that ministry and leadership require?
- Are you able to maintain balance in your personal and public lives?
- Do you demonstrate respect for the ministry, other pastors, leaders and people (both saved and unsaved) that reflects both the commission of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the confidence of RMAA in the issuing of the credential?
- Are you, as a person of God, in good standing with those within the church and of good report by those outside the church?
- Have you undertaken a recognised Bible study course or have evidence of a personal study discipline in the Word in order to be a person equipped to fulfil the relevant ministry?
- Are you willing to live consistently within the Tenets of Faith, and other policies that reflect the moral and ethical standards of the RMAA.
- Do you regularly attend a church which shares the same Tenets of Faith as RMAA?
- Are you willing to attend Rhema Conferences or Rhema events at least once a year to maintain a vital connection with RMAA?

CREDENTIALING PROCESS

Once you have identified which of these options best reflects your ministry, you may apply.

A. To obtain the relevant application forms:

1. Go to our website rhema.org.au and download the form. Complete it electronically and email back to james.eddison@rhema.org.au OR
2. Call the RMAA office and we'll have one posted to you OR
3. You can have one sent to you via email - james.eddison@rhema.org.au – and return it via email

You can fill these forms out electronically and email them back, or fill out a hard copy and post to:

RMAA
PO Box 1648
Springwood Q 4127

B. Complete these forms and include:

1. Pastoral Recommendation

This can be from your own Senior Pastor or another RMAA member who knows you in a ministerial capacity. Some of the aspects that a recommending Pastor will need to address are:

- a. Calling – is there an identified calling on the applicant's life?
- b. Commitment – Has the applicant demonstrated reliability and faithfulness in carrying out the responsibilities assigned to them and done so with the attitude of a servant?
- c. Character – has the applicant exhibited strong moral character, fruit of the spirit and application of the Word of God in their personal life, ministry and leadership?
- d. Competence – has the applicant demonstrated aptitude in the areas they have ministered in? These skills would include people skills, general ministry skills and leadership skills.
- e. Embracing of RMAA's tenets of faith – has the applicant demonstrated appreciation and application of these basic doctrines?

2. Personal Recommendation

This can be from a friend in good standing with the church and Body of Christ who has known you for a period of at least 3 years with regular contact and can attest to your ministry and character. Areas that this recommendation could address:

- a. Personal character and family life
- b. Professional history and skills
- c. People skills and interactions

3. Blue Card or Police check document

4. A current passport sized photo

This can be uploaded on to an electronic application form

5. Application Fee

A non-refundable fee of \$55AU is required with your application. This can be either via direct deposit or credit card.

C. Administrative Committee Review

Your application will be reviewed by the RMAA Administrative Committee who will ensure your application is complete and the type of credentialing is the most appropriate for the ministry in which you are serving.

Once your application has been received and reviewed, the RMAA Administrator will contact you to make an appointment for an interview. This can be carried out in person or if distance is an issue, by using FaceTime, Skype, FB Messenger or phone.

D. Conferral of Credentials

Once your application has been reviewed and approved, you will be notified by email and a letter will follow with your written confirmation of approval and accreditation card and certificate.

A service is to be planned annually where hands are laid on those who are receiving credentials. You will be notified of the dates as they are scheduled.

ADMINISTRATION AND COSTS

After a one-time application fee, the following annual membership fees will apply:

Classification	Specialised	Licensed	Ordained	Overseas
Member	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150AU
Spouse Member	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75AU
Celebrant Licence fee	N/A	\$50	\$50	N/A

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

We have a number of RMAA members who have been assigned to coordinate regions within Australia.

- a. Brisbane and Qld Regions – David and Lindy Sweet
- b. Melbourne & Sydney and other States – John and Eileen Brown

RESOURCES AND EVENTS

We provide many resources that will encourage you personally and help you in ministry including:

a. Spirit of Faith Conference

Each year, Rhema Family Church, Springwood hosts our annual Spirit of Faith Conference. This is designed to not only feed your faith but to provide a venue for gathering and fellowship for all RMAA members, their church members and friends.

b. Regional Fellowship

RMAA Regional Coordinators will be in contact with you about these events.

c. Website

Our website is being developed to incorporate many valuable resources to assist you in ministry.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

1. Change from one Credential Type to Another

Once you have been credentialed with RMAA, you may find your ministry changes and shifts. You may then apply to change to another type of credential within RMAA.

You should then complete the 'Change in Type of Credential Form' and return to the Administrator at RMAA office.

In order to confirm your change in ministry and thus your credentialing, you may be required to obtain another pastoral recommendation and fulfil the requirements for that particular credential category.

2. Annual Renewal of Credentials

Each year, your credentials are to be renewed. This is done annually to ensure that those holding RMAA credentials are in active ministry. There is no advantage for members to maintain credentials if they are not in active ministry.

This renewal date will fall on 31st December each year, regardless of the date of issuance of your credentials.

3. Lapse in Membership

Should your membership lapse for more than 3 calendar months, your credentials will be regarded as "inactive". To re-activate your membership, you will need to contact the RMAA administrator. Re-activation may occur up to 6 calendar months following the membership lapse.

4. Registration as a Marriage Celebrant

Should you wish to be registered as a Marriage Celebrant, you will need to apply separately upon approval of your Credentialing. Marriage Celebrants must be an Australian Citizen and marriages may only be conducted within Australia. Contact James Eddison for more information.

james.eddison@rhema.org.au

TENETS OF FAITH

RMAA's Tenets of Faith are as follows:

The Scriptures — The Bible is the inspired Word of God, the product of holy men of old who spoke and wrote as they were moved 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 — Our God is one, but manifested in three persons — the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, being co-equal (Phil. 2:6). God the Father is greater than all; the Sender of the Word (Logos) and the Begetter (John 14:28; John 16:28; John 1:14). The Son is the Word flesh-covered, the One Begotten, and has existed with the Father from the beginning (John 1:1; John 1:18; John 1:14). The Holy Spirit proceeds forth from both the Father and the Son and is eternal (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 fall, sin came into the world. "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." "As it is written, There is none righteous no, not one." Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was manifested to undo the work of the devil and gave His life and shed His blood to redeem and restore man back to God (Rom. 5:14; Rom. 3:10; Rom. 3:23; 1 John 3:8). Salvation is the gift of God to man, separate from works and the law, and is made operative by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, producing works acceptable to God (Eph. 2:8).

Eternal Life and the New Birth — Man's first step toward salvation is godly sorrow that works repentance. The New Birth is necessary to all men, and when experienced produces eternal life (2 Cor. 7:10; 1 John 5:12; John 3:3-5).

Water Baptism — Baptism in water is by immersion, is a direct commandment of our Lord, and is for believers only. The 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)

Baptism in the Holy Ghost — The Baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire is a gift from God as promised by the Lord Jesus Christ to all believers in this dispensation and is received subsequent to the New Birth. This experience is accompanied by the initial evidence of speaking in other tongues as the Holy Spirit Himself gives utterance (Matt.3:11; John 14:16,17; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:38,39; Acts 19:1-7; Acts 2:4).

Sanctification — The Bible teaches that without holiness no man can see the Lord. We believe in the Doctrine of Sanctification as a definite, yet progressive work of grace, commencing at the time of regeneration and continuing until the consummation of salvation at Christ's return (Heb. 12:14; 1Thess. 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 the prayer of faith, and by the laying on of hands. It is provided for in the atonement of Christ, and is the privilege of every member of the Church today (Mark 16:18; James 5:14-15; 1 Peter 2:24; Matt. 8:17; Isa. 53:4, 5).

Resurrection of the Just and the Return of Our Lord — The angels said to Jesus' disciples, “. . . this same Jesus . . . shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.” His coming is imminent. 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). 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. 20:6).

Hell and Eternal Retribution — The one who physically dies in sin 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).

Marriage — Marriage is between one man and one woman. A wedding ceremony is a spiritual service where two believers in Christ consecrate their commitment to each other and God. (Genesis 2:22-24 & Matthew 19:4-6)

Ministry Ethics

Jesus exemplified His Father perfectly in His speech, His ministry and in all aspects of His personal life. As His representatives on the earth it is important to God that we too accurately represent God and follow the example set by His Son, Jesus Christ.

In the Epistles, we are given very clear exhortation for those who are in leadership, providing a scriptural basis for RMAA Ministers Ethics.

Listed below are scriptural, moral and ethical standards that are expected in RMAA members as ministers who, empowered by His grace, represent the Lord Jesus Christ.

Personal Character

I will live a lifestyle that is above reproach and that does not cause the Name of Jesus or the Gospel to be brought into ill repute.

I choose an orderly life, self-controlled, hospitable and not quarrelsome.

1 Timothy 3:2-13, Titus 1:5-9

Marriage and Family Life

I guard my marriage (if married) and maintain faithfulness to my (1) spouse.

I will conduct my family with love and responsible order.

Colossians 3:18-25, 1 Corinthians 7:2-5, Ephesians 5:25-28 and Titus 2:4

Speech

I won't speak disparagingly about others, especially those who are also in ministry, Titus 3:2

Nor will I engage in profane or indecent talk. Ephesians 5:4, James 3:1-10

Relationships

I will not be abusive or controlling in any relationships. 1 Peter 5:1-3

I will maintain purity in relationships with the opposite sex. 1 Thessalonians 5:22

In Ministry

I will operate in ministry with humility and integrity. Philippians 2:4-7, Proverbs 11:13

Like Jesus, I choose to be a servant leader Mark 9:35, 1 Peter 5:2

Sexuality

I will maintain purity and chastity in sexuality and never engage in homosexual behavior, bestiality or use pornography.

Romans 1:23-27, Colossians 3:1-17, Ephesians 5:3-5

Finances

I will conduct my financial affairs as a good steward of what has been given by God, being a giver and without greediness. I will take care of my own family responsibly, avoiding excessive debt.

Ephesians 4:17-19, 2 Timothy 2:1-4, Romans 12:7-8

Reputation and Humility

I will walk in humility not only with believers but also those outside the church and speak the truth, holding fast to what is good.

Ephesians 4:1-3

Alcohol and Drugs

I will abstain from any behaviour that may cause others to stumble or be offended, particularly in regards to over-indulgence in alcohol or the use of tobacco and illegal drugs.

1 Corinthians 6:12, 1 Timothy 3:3

RHEMA LEADERSHIP CORE VALUES

Living the Word of God

- Putting the Word of God first in everything
- Living by faith in the way we walk, talk and live
- Being consistent in speaking, singing and living what we believe the Word of God teaches

Responding to the Holy Spirit

- Recognising the Holy Spirit and His leading
- Valuing and working with the gifts and operations of the Holy Spirit
- Valuing the operation of the Holy Spirit in the life of every believer, not just publicly but in every-day life.

Activating Prayer/Worship

- Exercising and activating the right and responsibility of prayer for every Believer
- Giving value to Spirit-filled and Spirit-led prayer and worship
- Honouring God in worship and response to God's love

Walking in Love

- Living a life of love towards others according to 1 Corinthians 13:4-8
- Not holding grudges nor being involved in gossip or strife
- Showing honour and respect to those both in and outside the Church
- Demonstrating a heart of love by giving; both to the work of the ministry and to each other

Building Family

- Holding fast to the family unit as demonstrated in the New Testament
- Value the family of God within the Body of Christ
- Exercising warmth and friendliness and developing connectedness
- Practicing hospitality as instructed in the Epistles (Hebrews 13:2 & 1 Peter 4:9)

Operating in Excellence

- Living as Jesus did – Christ-like character
- Seeking the honour of God above the honour of man
- Willingness to learn new skills and help in any area to get the job done
- Attendance and commitment that demonstrates a heart for the ministry
- Ensuring quality and integrity in everything we do

Working in Teams

- Build teams in order to grow the work and build the body
- Help people to fulfil their potential
- Spread the workload and maximise fruitfulness
- Teach, train and replicate yourself and Jesus in others