

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT
RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
OF ALTAR WORKERS
(Guide and Handbook pg. 29)

The saints of God who have been consecrated to serve as Altar Workers are to encourage, to pray for, and to wait (tarry) with the individual souls (seekers) who are seeking to be filled with the gift of the Holy Ghost, speaking in tongues as the spirit of God gives the utterance.

A practical guide for the Altar Workers in the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith is included in the following rules issued from the office of the Chief Apostle of the COOLJC, Bishop William L. Bonner.

RULES THAT MUST BE FOLLOWED BY
THOSE WHO TARRY WITH SOULS

1. When tarrying with a seeker, the right frame of mind is essential. Therefore, it is required that a person pray for at least fifteen (15) minutes before tarrying with a seeker.
2. If two persons are tarrying with a seeker, only one of them should be talking, offering words of encouragement. It should be done in a low tone of voice, never shouting in the ear of the seeker. The second person should be praying, never talking to the seeker until the first person has ceased to encourage the seeker.
3. Here is an example of an expression of encouragement: "Jesus is giving you the Holy Spirit today/tonight. Just believe!" When a seeker feels the Spirit and it is evident to those tarrying with him, it is important that you don't get excited and begin to shout at the seeker. Keep encouraging him by saying, "The Holy Spirit is coming in. Just yield to it, don't be afraid. Just relax and let the Spirit have its way!" Others in the room should not rush to the seeker who is receiving the Holy Spirit and shout words of encouragement. It is too many voices and will be confusing to the seeker. Let everyone stay where they are and let the persons tarrying with that seeker remain with that seeker until he is filled.
4. Anyone with an offensive odor of the body or mouth should not tarry with seekers, but sit in the room and pray.
5. No one should lay hands on a seeker but the minister.
6. When seekers are praising the Lord by saying, "Hallelujah" or "Thank you Jesus" and is in the spirit, do not change their praise.
7. No one should run from one seeker to another unless there is a shortage of workers.
8. The tarrying service is not for teaching doctrine or for long testimonies. The service is for people to receive the Holy Ghost. All exhortations should be short and encouraging to the seekers. They should encourage the seekers to receive the Holy Spirit by telling them how to believe, how to have faith, and how to release their faith.
9. If a seeker has been tarrying for an hour or an hour and a half on their knees, they should be encouraged to sit up.
10. Singing helps the seeker. After tarrying for an hour, the saints should sing while the seeker tarries. That would be a blessing.
11. There should never be any expressions of disagreement or hostilities between saints in the tarrying services or in front of the seekers. Tarrying service is not the place for this kind of situation.
12. If a seeker speaks in tongues and there is no joy, do not receive it.
13. If you are tarrying with a seeker at the Altar and the seeker begins to "Purge," please take the seeker to the Prayer Room as soon as possible.