

AWAKEN TO YOUR CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY TO VOTE  
A GOTV PLAN FOR PASTORS AND CHURCHES

**VOTE**



THE

**ROCK**

# **"VOTE THE ROCK"**

## **AWAKENING CHRISTIANS TO OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO VOTE**

### **A GOTV PLAN FOR PASTORS AND CHURCHES**

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E.W. Jackson, National President**

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#### **Introduction**

Evangelical Christians tend to share a common vision for the country on most issues, but it doesn't matter if they don't vote.

The only poll that matters is the one taken on Election Day. Polls may reflect the sentiments of voters, but they do not tell you which candidate is going to get supporters to the voting place. Most people will never be polled, but every citizen can vote.

Twenty-five million evangelicals stayed home in the 2012 presidential election and by doing so helped ratify an agenda with which they profoundly disagreed. In 2016, four million more evangelicals went to the polls and their votes were critical to the outcome of the election.

**Without an effective get-out-the-vote (GOTV) strategy for churches, we face the specter of electing Presidents, Governors, legislators and other state and local officials who are anti-Christian, anti-life, anti-marriage, anti-Free markets, anti-Israel and disdainful of religious liberty. As we all know, this kind of political leadership has been disastrous for America, Christianity, the Constitution and our economy.**

Most pastors believe that the people in their churches are registered to vote. The data shows however, that **only about 50% of regular churchgoers are registered and only 50% of those who are registered actually go to the polls.** Christians could determine the outcome of practically every state, local and federal election if they simply registered, followed through by voting and made sure to vote for the candidate who most closely adheres to their Christian values.

VOTE THE ROCK is a get-out-the-vote plan specifically designed to achieve this.

### **Step 1: Voter Registration**

**Each pastor needs to make sure that every church member is registered to vote.**

We are asking every conservative Bible believing church to hold two voter registration months each election year - one for the primaries and one for the general election.

The Sunday before the general election is designated VOTE THE ROCK Sunday. You can do the same the Sunday before the primary election when it seems appropriate and the primary choice is critical.

During the Revolutionary War, Pastors preached Election Day sermons to inspire and inform the people. John Adams said pulpits "thundered" with the cause of freedom. That needs to be a permanent characteristic of our churches.

**VOTE THE ROCK Sunday is designed to restore the same sense of civic responsibility in churches that helped birth America.**

On VTR Sunday before the general election the Sermon, among other things, should remind members that in a free society Christians have the responsibility for choosing the political leaders who serve in elected office.

**Therefore, it is a sin to abdicate that responsibility. It is a sin to not vote.**

When wicked leaders come to power in America, we as Christians have no one to blame but ourselves. We must vote our biblical values and urge all fellow Christians do the same. We will answer to God for failure to do so.

**No office seeker will be perfect. Christians should choose the candidate closest to their values.**

### **Step 2: Voter Registration Coordinator**

A permanent **Voter Registration Coordinator** (VRC) should be appointed in every church to **make sure that 100% of those eligible to vote are registered**. Free software is available through United In Purpose to check on the voter registration of each member.

([www.unitedinpurpose.org](http://www.unitedinpurpose.org)) You may check the voter registration of Church members on our website at [www.standamerica.us](http://www.standamerica.us).

The VRC can also visit the city or county registrar and get whatever forms are needed to register members. Some may not be comfortable registering online. The goal is to get every member

registered to vote. Most churches will have members from various cities, towns and counties. Some may even have members from different states because the church is near a state border. Steps should be taken to get members registered to vote no matter where they live.

It may take multiple volunteers to get the forms necessary in the various localities where church members reside. These volunteers should help members fill in the the forms and file them with the local registration office. **The goal is 100% registration.** Every Bible believing church must do whatever it takes.

### **Step 3: Teach Citizenship In Church/Sunday School**

Churches should include citizenship in Sunday School curriculum to teach members their responsibility to vote biblical principles, rather than race, party or family tradition.

The first duty of Christian citizenship is to uphold the Constitution and the Judeo-Christian principles upon which it is based. Christians should not be persecuted or punished by government for holding pre-born life sacred; defining marriage as the Bible teaches - a sacred union between one man and

one woman; believing that God created only two genders - male and female; or maintaining the view that the greatest threat to the planet is mankind's rebellion against God, not climate change or global warming.

Christians in America are suffering an erosion of First Amendment rights while the government and the Courts seek to impose new definitions of sexual morality, marriage and gender:

The infamous law suits against Hobby Lobby and the Little Sisters of the Poor; the executive mandate forcing schools to implement a new gender identity regime for rest room, locker room and shower use; and extraordinary accommodations for Islam while restricting Christians' freedom of religion all sound the alarm.

**We must be politically active and we must vote or lose what liberty we have.**

Christians have lost their businesses, been fired from their jobs and vilified in the press for living out sincerely held religious beliefs. At present, we have a President who speaks in defense of our religious liberty. In the recent past that was not so, and it could change with one election.

Liberal bureaucrats at the state and local levels as well as those who remain entrenched in the federal government from past administrations could pose a threat to our First Amendment rights.

Christians must be vigilant regardless of who is President.

In Virginia for example, at this writing every Constitutional statewide office is held by politicians who enthusiastically support Planned Parenthood and the destruction of pre-born human life. They must be voted out of office. If every conservative pastor and church in Virginia would register and mobilize their members, pro-death politicians would be driven from office. VTR is designed to do that.

Christian believers must never allow ourselves to be governed and persecuted by politicians who hate everything we hold dear. We must always be active, engaged, voting citizens to send the message that those who oppose us will pay a price at the polls.

#### **Step 4: Celebrate American History Month**

STAND has proposed September as American History Month. September 17, 1787 is the date on



which the Founding Fathers passed our Constitution and sent it to the states for ratification. That document has endured multiple challenges and even a Civil War. It has withstood the test of time. It is the longest and most successful governing document in history.

We urge every VTR Church to set aside September as American History Month and teach the Judeo-Christian history of our nation. During black History Month, one might hear about George Washington Carver. Few people know that he was a committed Christian who attributed his scientific genius to God. Christianity has always been central to American life and progress.

We hear about the Wright Brothers, but much better educated engineers around the world were racing to create flight. The Wright Brothers had a unique American advantage. They had a praying father, a Bishop in the Brethren Church.

Unless we appreciate the role faith and Christianity have played in our Republic, we will inevitably fail Ben Franklin's challenge. He said they had given us a Republic, "if you can keep it." If we do not participate and vote, we will surely lose it.

## **Step 5: Distribute Voter Guides in Churches**

Voter education of Christians must include voter guides which explain where the candidates stand on key issues such as abortion, same-sex marriage, First and Second Amendment rights, terrorism and Sharia Law, national security, support for law enforcement and criminal justice reform.

STAND will provide voter guides for distribution to churches during the general election. The pastor or designated surrogate must review the Voter Guide with members and show them the implications of certain policy positions. Take nothing for granted. Pastors are sometimes shocked to learn some of their church members voted for the very people who are against Christian principles. Make sure they are clear on how Christian principles should inform their vote.

## **Step 6: Pledge and Plan**

Pastors will ask every member to sign a Pledge and a Plan to vote including when, where and how they are getting to the polls. On a Sunday at least one week prior to the last day for registering to vote, members should be given an opportunity - while at church - to register and sign the Pledge

and Plan to vote. These cards should then be prayed over. Church members should keep them for their own reminder and conscience. Attached is a Pledge & Plan that can be used to emphasize that voting is a sacred duty before God. \*See Appendix A

For those people who need help getting to their voting precinct, the church should organize to provide transportation to the polls.

### **Step 7: Vote The Rock Sunday**

The Sunday before Election Day, whether state, local or national elections, should be a day for preaching the importance of voting. In Appendix B is an outline for a sermon on the responsibility to vote. It contains some scripture references and thoughts on how to approach the subject. This outline could be broken up into a short series of sermons if a Pastor so chooses. Pastors are perfectly capable of creating their own messages, but this outline is offered to help stimulate prayer and thought.

The important thing is to instill in congregants the conviction that voting is a sacred responsibility. Christians should not vote based on race, party or family tradition, but should vote for policies and

candidates which reflect their biblical worldview. Our vote should be a sacred act before God, in worship and honor of Him.

### **Step 8: Follow Up**

Finally, there must be follow up after an election. The church should recognize and celebrate those who voted. It is important to make voting a big deal in the lives of Christians. STAND will provide a "I-VTR" pin or sticker: I VOTE THE ROCK. The Rock is Jesus. This is another way of saying I voted my Christian values.

The left is trying to drag America into socialism, atheism and anti-Christian bigotry. Unless God fearing, Bible believing Christians awaken to their civic responsibility, the situation will continue to deteriorate, no matter who is President. We must stop the moral and economic deterioration of our nation. America is a Christian nation.

We do not have a state sanctioned religion, nor should we. We do not support a theocracy. Jesus, the perfect King, can establish that when He returns. However, the fact that we believe in freedom of religion and conscience and do not wish to force Christianity on anyone, does not mean that we must deny our culture. Some of our

fellow citizens hate Christians and Christianity because we are a reminder of God's moral order and they want to break free from it. However, without God, America as we know it will cease to exist.

The Founding Fathers established our nation on the firm foundation of faith in God. When they said "we are endowed by our Creator," they were saying that freedom and rights are not bestowed by a King or President, a legislature or a court, but by Almighty God. For the last fifty years Christianity has been on the decline in America. We must reverse this trend if we are to save American culture and politics.

Specifically, saving America will require Believers to take a stand in the voting booth for our Constitution and the Judeo-Christian values which undergird it. Pastors and churches across America - at the local, state and national levels - are in the best position to preserve the vision of "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and Justice for all."

## Conclusion

The Bible says, "***When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; But when a wicked man rules, the people groan.***" [Proverbs 29:2]

It also says, "***Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.***" [Proverbs 14:34]

Whether we rejoice or groan is up to us. Whether America is exalted or reproached is up to us. Christians will change the course of this nation if we do our duty before God and vote our Christian values.

Billions around the world are slaves to their governments. Americans are free. When we abdicate our responsibility to choose Godly leaders for our country, we create the scenario set forth in Hosea 8:4 - "***They set up kings, but not by Me; They made princes, but I did not acknowledge them.***" Therefore, it is a sin for an American Christian not to vote.

If we elect leaders who acknowledge God, He will acknowledge them. Then and only then is America's future secure. Psalms 33:12 says,

***"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,  
The people He has chosen as His own  
inheritance."***

If we want America to be blessed, we must vote  
our Christian values! Vote the Rock!

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## **Appendix A - MEMBER'S PLEDGE**

### **I PLEDGE AND PLAN TO VOTE THE ROCK**

#### **MY PLEDGE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby pledge to Vote the Rock. The Rock is Jesus. My vote is a sacred act which reflects my commitment to Him. I will seek to elect Godly leadership, which means supporting candidates who know and love God and advance policies consistent with the word of God. I will not allow my vote to be dictated by race, party or any consideration other than what is pleasing God.

Therefore I will support candidates who will: fight to protect the lives of unborn children; uphold marriage as God ordained it - a union between one man and one woman; defend the Bill of Rights, particularly the First and Second Amendments which are being eroded by ongoing attacks against them; oppose the implementation of Sharia (Islamic) Law in America - in law, politics or culture; support Israel as a sacred national obligation; uphold



free market capitalism as the most fair and free way to distribute goods and services; oppose all attempts to bring Marxism, socialism, communism or any other foreign ideology into the legal, political, educational or cultural life of our country; uphold Judeo-Christian values as the foundation for our Constitution and way of life; and work to fulfill the vision of "one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all."

### **MY PLAN**

I will not leave my voting to chance, or convenience. It is my top priority on Election Day and I will make sure that I either vote early, vote by absentee ballot or physically get to the polls on Election Day to fulfill my sacred obligation.

### **My Voter Registration**

If I have any doubts whatsoever, I will double check to make sure my voter registration is order.

I will do so by calling my local voter registration office on \_\_\_\_\_.

If I am not registered, I will register to vote on

\_\_\_\_\_.

I will register at (Name of Place)\_\_\_\_\_.

(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Date I Plan To Vote:

Election Day \_\_\_\_\_.

I will vote before election day through EARLY VOTING on \_\_\_\_\_.

I will vote by mail through ABSENTEE BALLOT.

I will send in the ballot on \_\_\_\_\_

Time I Plan To Vote:

\_\_\_\_\_ AM

\_\_\_\_\_ PM

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I voted on \_\_\_\_\_ Initials

\_\_\_\_\_

Turn this in at church for your surprise. We want to celebrate those who followed through.

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**IF YOU NEED HELP GETTING TO THE POLLS, CHECK THE APPROPRIATE LINES BELOW, TEAR THIS OF AND TURN IT IN TO THE CHURCH VOTER REGISTRATION COORDINATOR.**

How I Am Getting To The Polls

\_\_\_\_\_ I am driving myself.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will need a ride and assistance.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am physically challenged and will need to vote from my car.

**APPENDIX B**  
**Sermon Outline - VOTE THE ROCK**  
**SUNDAY**

**"GOD SEES YOUR VOTE"**

Hosea 8:4a & 7a - ***"They set up kings, but not by Me; They made princes, but I did not acknowledge them... They sow the wind, And reap the whirlwind."***

I. To the extent that any people have the ability to choose their leaders, God holds them responsible for the leaders they choose.

A. We in America are blessed to be able to participate in choosing the people who serve us in elective office.

1. Many countries have elections on paper, but the leaders are chosen by elites. The Soviet Union had elections, but there was only one candidate chosen by the politburo.

2. The new Russia holds elections, but Vladimir Putin is in complete control.

B. When we who have the privilege of choosing leaders in fair elections abdicate that civic responsibility, we bring bad results on ourselves and our nation. Christians should be especially diligent about full participation.

1. When we are not diligent about that responsibility, we set up leaders that God does not acknowledge because they do not acknowledge Him. That is what it means to sow the wind and reap the whirlwind.

II. Proverbs 29:2 says - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; But when a wicked man rules, the people groan.

A. In a Constitutional Republic such as the United States, whether the righteous or the wicked rule is up to the people.

1. Therefore, whether we rejoice or groan is our own doing. Unless we seek

first God's kingdom and his righteousness, we will not get the leaders God chooses, but the leaders we deserve. [Ezekiel 22:27 - ***Her princes in her midst are like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood, to destroy people, and to get dishonest gain.***]

2. When Christians refuse to register and vote or neglect to vote for people who reflect their Christian values, we leave it to others to choose our elected officials for us. That is not only wrong, but dangerous to our freedom and the future of our Republic.

(a) Jeremiah 2:27

**..For they have turned their back to Me,** and not their face. But in the time of their trouble They will say, 'Arise and save us..."

B. 1 Timothy 2:1-4, says,  
1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 2

for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

1. Those in authority in that day were self-appointed dictators, conquerors, masters of the people, not their servants.

2. We should certainly pray for those in authority because they affect whether our lives can be quiet and peaceful, making it easier for people to come to a knowledge of the truth. Now we can do more than pray for those in authority. We can work to put the right people in authority.

3. When we have leaders who hinder the gospel and we either allow them to be elected or help them become elected, God holds us responsible.

(a) Kentucky had a governor who would not accommodate Kim Davis who refused to sign an illegitimate marriage license for two people of the same sex. The Governor had the authority to provide an accommodation. He refused. A court ordered Kim to jail.

In the next election, a new Kentucky Governor was elected, Matt Bevin - who is a Christian. He provided an accommodation to Kim Davis so that she could do her job without being forced to violate her conscience. That's the difference an election makes, and that is the difference Christian voting and participation makes.

C. Proverbs 14:34, says

"Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people."

1. This obligates Christians to support righteous people and policies so that the nation is blessed. One of the chief ways of doing that is electing



people who will pursue righteous rather than wicked policies.

2. Candidates who support the killing of unborn babies, the redefinition of marriage and other immoral policies should not get the votes of Christians because they are defying God. Christians should not support Candidates who refuse to recognize the threat of Islamic Jihad and Sharia law or fail to understand that Islam does not worship the same God as Christianity and Judaism, and that it is not a "religion of peace" but is a totalitarian political and military system.

D. Psalms 33:12, says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, The people He has chosen as His own inheritance."

1. Every Christian should want America to be blessed. Our nation has been become the greatest in history because we have been blessed. We will continue to be blessed only if we

advance Godly principles and choose Godly leaders. The idea that Christians have no part in the public debate is taking root in liberal circles, but even some Christians have embraced this false idea. Christians must oppose this bigotry, not support it. We need elected leaders who understand that American culture is rooted in Christianity, and this has been the key to our success. When we cease to be a nation "whose God is the Lord," we will cease to be a blessed, prosperous and powerful nation.

2. Whether America is blessed or cursed depends upon whether Christians see voting as part of their responsibility to guide the nation toward righteousness. For God sees what we do in the voting booth just as He sees everything else.



S.T.A.N.D. STAYING TRUE TO AMERICA'S NATIONAL DESTINY  
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