

vote

Your Values

Throughout history, Christians have been responsible for making positive changes to society. From abolishing slavery to taking on issues such as forced child labor, prison abuse and lack of education for the poor, Christians have tackled the moral issues of their day and prevailed.

There are many ways we as Christians can improve our community. We can even help change our world by something as simple as registering to vote. Imagine the impact Christians could have on our government, its leadership and its people if we all simply registered to vote—and then voted our conscience!

The Ministry of Voting

In fact, you can rightly view your vote as a form of ministry. After all, when you vote, you're directly and indirectly impacting people's lives. By the people you elect and the ballot measures you vote on, you're making a practical difference—for good or ill—in the lives of:

- Preborn children (abortion policy)
- Impressionable youth (pornography laws and education policy)
- Husbands and wives (marriage and divorce laws)
- Hurting souls (religious freedom laws)

And that's only the beginning of the impact you can have when you walk into your voting booth.

A Stewardship Responsibility

Moreover, as Christ's representatives on earth, we are under a mandate to be "salt and light" in our culture (Matthew 5:13-16).

So this election year, prayerfully resolve to:

- Be registered
- Be informed
- Vote your values

See the reverse side for resources and ideas to help you vote your values.

If America is to survive, we must elect more God-centered men and women to public office—individuals who will seek Divine guidance in the affairs of state.

—Billy Graham,
evangelist

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Does my vote really matter?

In 2004, Christian voter turnout increased by 93 percent over the 2002 turnout, and 42 percent of voters identified abortion as an important issue. As a result:

- 63 percent of freshman congressmen elected were pro-life.
- 77 percent of freshman senators were pro-life.

By increasing the pro-life representation in Congress in the 2002 and 2004 elections, America witnessed the first four major abortion-restricting bills enacted since *Roe v. Wade*:

- Infants Born Alive Protection Act
- Unborn Victims of Violence Act
- Partial-Birth Abortion Ban
- Fetal Farming Ban

In addition, those senators helped confirm strict constructionists John Roberts and Samuel Alito to the U.S. Supreme Court.

However, in the 2006 election, Christian voter turnout decreased by 30 percent from the 2004 numbers, and only 30 percent of voters stated that abortion was an important issue. As a result:

- Only 31 percent of freshman congressmen elected were pro-life.
- Only 10 percent of freshman senators elected were pro-life.
- *The Baltimore Sun* labeled the current Congress as “the most pro-choice Congress in the history of the Republic.”

Your vote is your opportunity to protect life, marriage and family. *Will you be ready to cast your vote in support of the family this November?*

Source: David Barton, “American Voters and the Abortion Issue,” *WallBuilders*, January 2008, wallbuilders.com/LIBissuesArticles.asp?id=6449 (April 7, 2008).

Make a Difference

Here s how:

✓ **Register to Vote:** It s easy:

- Obtain and complete the registration form.
- Sign, address and stamp it.
- Mail to your secretary of state. (For the address, see eac.gov)

✓ **Register Your Friends:** Help organize a voter-registration drive in your church or community. Follow the strategy and download resources provided by CitizenLink.com/voter. Contact your supervisor of elections for specific guidelines in your area.

✓ **Vote Your Values:**

- Educate yourself on election issues: CitizenLink.com/voter is a great place to start.
- Choose a candidate: Know what the candidates stand for. Weigh the candidates’ values against yours, and choose the candidate whose values best represent you.
- Final questions: Do the candidates you plan to vote for share your deepest values? If not, why vote for them?

✓ **Pray for the Election:** Election Day is fast approaching, and much is at stake. In many ways, the future of our nation hangs in the balance. We encourage all concerned Christians to devote themselves to prayer for the election and our nation.

Featured Resource

Check out our website: CitizenLink.com/voter for election information, helpful links, useful resources and practical steps that will help you vote your values. Remember, how you vote today impacts tomorrow!

CitizenLink.com/voter

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