

PASTOR'S GUIDE TO ELECTION WEEKEND 2024

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE OF FAITH ARE UNLIKELY TO VOTE

Noted pollster George Barna recently released a study measuring likely voting trends among people of faith in the 2024 election.¹ His research shows:

ONLY 51%

of people of faith are likely to vote in the 2024 election

41 MILLION

born-again Christians are unlikely to vote in November

32 MILLION

Christians who regularly attend church are expected to not vote in the 2024 election

WHY PASTORS SHOULD SPEAK OUT

One out of every six likely non-voters said they would probably vote if their church taught them that voting is a biblical responsibility for every Christian. As a result:

5 million additional Christians would likely vote if their pastor encouraged them to do so

During the 2020 presidential election, the margin of victory in the nine swing states was roughly 600,000 votes. **If pastors simply encourage their members to vote, it could make a major difference in the upcoming election.**

ONE VOTE MATTERS

Over half of all non-voters (52%) said they were unlikely to vote because they believed that their one vote will not make a difference.

BUT 91 ELECTIONS IN THE U.S. HAVE BEEN DECIDED BY A SINGLE VOTE in the past six years, from school boards to state senate races.²

¹ Dr. George Barna, *2024 Pre-Election Research – Report #1*, Cultural Research Center at Arizona Christian University (Oct. 7, 2024), available at: <https://www.arizonachristian.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/CRC-Release-Pre-Election-1-Oct-12-2024-Final.pdf>.

² Ballotpedia, *Elections Decided by 10 Votes or Fewer* (last updated Sept. 2024), available at: https://ballotpedia.org/Elections_decided_by_10_votes_or_fewer

WHAT PASTORS & CHURCHES CAN DO

Pastors and churches have a legal right to educate their members about biblical and political issues and encourage them to vote according to biblical values. Under IRS guidelines, churches, houses of worship, and 501(c)(3)s **have complete freedom to:**

- **Encourage members to vote**
- **Speak about specific issues** (including life), specific legislation, and ballot initiatives
- **Hand out nonpartisan voter guides** (View a 501(c)(3)-compliant guide at FirstLiberty.org/Elections)

A LAW FIRM-APPROVED STATEMENT

Pastors are fully within their First Amendment rights to make statements such as the following:

“This year, we have the opportunity to decide who leads our nation. The leaders we elect will determine America’s future on religious freedom, the right to life, parental rights, U.S. Supreme Court judges, Israel, and more. **The policies and laws our leaders enact will impact America for generations to come.** Casting your vote is a powerful way to make your voice heard and take a stand for righteousness. **Voting is not only our right as Americans; it’s our biblical responsibility as believers.** I encourage you to make your voice heard by voting according to biblical values in this election.”

FIRST LIBERTY’S ELECTION RESOURCE CENTER

Visit First Liberty’s Election Resource Center to view our:

- **Churches & Elections Legal Guide**
- **Trump & Harris Record Comparison**
- **Why Justices Matter Guide**
- **Videos** to play in weekend services, and more.



Available at FirstLiberty.org/Elections



FIRST LIBERTY INSTITUTE is the largest law firm in the world dedicated exclusively to defending religious freedom for all Americans.

First Liberty Institute is a nonprofit, charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. It does not endorse or participate in any campaign activity for or against political candidates. The content of this publication is intended to be used for informational, educational, and reference purposes only.