



NOVEMBER 2018

THE CONNECTER

CONNECTING HEARTS OF PRAYER FOR
THE NATION TO GOD AND EACH OTHER!

Politics and the Pulpit



By Pastor Bobby Alger

As a pastor for over 25 years, I have found that most people do not like politics spewed from the pulpit. As believers, we live in and from another Kingdom and seek to live above the kingdoms of this world. The government we aspire to is eternal and ever increasing (Is 9:6-7). At the same time, we live under a civil government as stewards and citizens here on the earth. Romans 13:1-7 and 1 Peter 2:13-17 teach us that earthly governments are sanctioned by God and have authority to protect citizens, punish evildoers, and provide an environment where people can flourish.

In our form of government we vote representatives into legislative offices. Laws are enacted and changed through the legislative process. If Christians desire to have a voice in the shaping of our laws and ordinances, we must vote for the candidates that most closely reflect a biblical worldview. In this form of government, our voice is our vote.

As a pastor, I feel a responsibility to teach

people about what the Word of God says about the various issues to insure they are thinking from a biblical worldview and not a secular one (Ti 2:1). Without calling attention to specific candidates or parties, I teach what Scripture says about the core issues of our faith and encourage them to compare these truths with the candidates and their parties. Some of the positions that I believe are critical for believers to embrace are the sanctity of life, marriage between a man and woman, religious freedom, and sound financial stewardship. If we can get the basic dogmas of our faith in place, other issues will come into alignment.

As the election season approaches I encourage people to prayerfully consider candidates in the following ways:

- Candidates that support life and biblical marriage are critical in upholding biblical values and a Christian worldview. Even if a candidate is not a believer, they can be God-fearing and honoring of biblical values.

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FIRST FRIDAY PRAYER

November 2, 2018

On the first Friday of the month, we encourage all to fast and pray for America using the prayer focuses below.

FALL ELECTIONS

On Tuesday, November 6, 2018, U.S. voters will elect an entire House of Representatives, one-third of the Senate, many governors, and scores of local and state officials. Various states will have ballot referenda on many pivotal issues. Pray that Christians and God-fearing citizens will exercise their privilege and responsibility to vote. Intercede that God, in His mercy, grant our nation spiritually sensitive leaders.

VOTER TURNOUT

Thank God for our constitutional right to vote in our nation. Ask God to stir up Christians to vote in the midterm elections, either in person or through absentee ballot. Pray for godly candidates to prevail.

THANKSGIVING

"Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving..." (Ps 95:2). Give thanks for living in a country where we can worship, pray, and share the Gospel openly and without fear. Ask God for a truly grateful heart. Offer prayers of repentance and intercede for a true national thanksgiving.

To see God's purposes for America fulfilled through sustained prayer and Spirit-led obedience

IFA Intercessors: Adding Action to Prayer



By Kris Kubal
*Director of Social Media
and Marketing*

Praying for our elections has been a staple of intercessors for years. It's a no-brainer. What happens, however, when intercessors are challenged to add action to their prayer for the midterm elections? How will these prayer warriors introduce prayer in a concrete way in their communities, state, or even nation? Through our IFA social media community, emails we receive, article comments, and survey responses, we see some great ideas emerging on how intercessors are walking out their faith and prayer for the elections. We'd like to share some of these amazing ideas and outcomes of intercessors taking prayer to a new level.

More Prayer

- "Praise God for raising up prayer warriors. We pray with a 24/7 prayer conference call with others any time of day or night. The more praying the better. IFA is another way we can take action and pray. Thanks for IFA!!!"

- "I pray for those God has called to run to be elected. I name the local candidates in my prayer time. I am praying with my husband together for the elections and for the church to wake up."

- "Several of us in my neighborhood have started a prayer group for the elections."

- "I speak up at church, introduce

prayer requests for the elections and for candidates."

- "I have begun prayer walking my neighborhood, praying over each of my neighbors as I pass. I know by doing this I am sowing seeds of God's presence in my community."

Interesting and Creative Actions

- "I took some friends to see [the movie] *Death of a Nation* by Dinesh D'Souza. It was an eye opener for them. I plan on sharing the movie with others when it comes out on DVD. People need to see the truth about what is happening in our nation and how we can stop the direction. Sometimes a movie is a great way to bring understanding."

- "My prayer partner and I pray together by phone and have started a private page on Facebook to share media articles for prayer with others of similar minds."

- "I share the prayer guides from IFA with my Bible study and other people I see. I have them on hand to be able to pull out to distribute when I get the opportunity. Also, I am gathering churches to pray together in my community—we meet once a month as a group to pray for the leaders and elections! The added bonus is the unity we are developing."

Getting involved in campaigns

- "I didn't know what I was doing was called intercessory activism. I started helping make phone calls at a campaign I support."

- "Campaigns are expensive. I began donating to a candidate I support."

- "I am helping get people in my church

registered to vote."

- "I am involved in my local political organizations to be a voice for biblical beliefs. I once ran for office for a local position. We need to be involved!"

These are just a fraction of the great ideas and practical ways that intercessors have come up with to add action to their prayer for the 2018 midterm elections. Some additional ideas that are simple but effective are:

- Fast and pray for the elections.

- Volunteer to do campaign work for a candidate you support—they always need help answering phones, stuffing mailers, and putting up signs. You can pray while you are working!

- Pray silently at polling places on the day of voting.

- Consider praying on site at critical locations in your area such as campaign offices, election offices, local, state, and national government offices, "gates to the city or county" as well as areas that are considered to be strongholds.

In so many ways, this election, like many others, is really a spiritual battle. Will we as a nation embrace laws and lawmakers who move our nation away from biblical values or toward them? Our prayer—and our action—is vital. Reflect on these ideas from your fellow intercessors and decide prayerfully what you are called to do to add action to your prayer for this election.

POLITICS AND THE PULPIT

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- Determine which platforms are the most biblically aligned. When we vote for a candidate, we are also standing in agreement with their party. We must be sure we are not unequally yoked as believers.

- Look beyond the personality to their message. Some leaders have magnetic personalities and some do not. Good fruit always follows good leaders, regardless of their style or persona.

Most importantly, I urge the people to pray. We are instructed to pray for all who serve in office and, as believers, we must be bipartisan in our prayers. My call is to preach the Word of God and remind the people of our ongoing opportunity to impact our civil government through our voice AND our vote.



Pastor Bobby Alger leads Crossroads Community Church in Winchester, Virginia.

Learn how to **pray** for,
connect with, and **contact**
our elected officials.
IFApray.org



Get Out and Pray and Vote

By David Kubal, IFA President/CEO

Our country continues to experience historic moments as our culture and values are redefined. November's elections will offer yet another defining moment. This is why it is critical that the Church pray and vote.

This year's midterm elections provide each of us with an opportunity to share the Gospel in praying and voting in accordance with biblical principles. We know that government is appointed by God and designed to accomplish His purposes (Rom 13:1). We will be blessed if our leaders fear God (Ex 18:21). Solutions for our communities and nation can only come from the Lord (Ps 33:12). Our kingdom model is "your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (Mt 6:10).

We are not praying for specific candidates or parties to be in power. Rather, we are praying for God's will to be accomplished on a local and national level.

Prayer at the Poll

Lord, as I prepare to vote, I recognize that government was appointed by You for Your glory. All aspects of life, including government, should be places where Your Kingdom values rule. I desire leaders who fear You and choose to

support issues reflecting Your heart, for You alone are sovereign and the solution to all of our nation's problems. I dedicate my voting to You as a holy obligation to my community and nation. Let Your Presence fill our nation, I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

GLORIFYING GOD THROUGH ELECTIONS

New IFA Voter Guide!

To order, call
800-USA-PRAY (872-7729).



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IFA Office: Post Office Box 915 Purcellville, VA 20134
Tel: 800-USA-PRAY (872-7729)
E-mail: IFA@IFApray.org
IFA websites: IFApray.org and IFAResources.com



Please pray for each of these critical races for the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate.

HOUSE RACES

Arizona 6th District

Anita Malik (D)
David Schweikert (R-Incumbent)

California 45th District

Katie Porter (D)
Mimi Walters (R-Incumbent)

Florida 26th District

Debbie Mucarsel-Powell (D)
Carlos Curbelo (R-Incumbent)

Illinois 12th District

Brendan Kelly (D)
Mike Bost (R-Incumbent)

Kansas 3rd District

Sharice Davids (D)
Kevin Yoder (R-Incumbent)

New Mexico 2nd District

Xochitl Torres Small (D)
Yvette Herrell (R)

Nevada 3rd District

Susie Lee (D)
Danny Tarkanian (R)

New Jersey 3rd District

Andrew Kim (D)
Tom MacArthur (R-Incumbent)

North Carolina 9th District

Dan McCready (D)
Mark Harris (R)

South Carolina 4th District

Brandon Brown (D)
William Timmons (R)

Texas 32nd District

Colin Allred (D)
Pete Sessions (R-Incumbent)

Texas 21st District

Joseph Kopser (D)
Chip Roy (R)

Virginia 7th District

Abigail Spanberger (D)
David Brat (R-Incumbent)

Washington 8th District

Kim Schrier (D)
Dino Rossi (R)

SENATE RACES

Arizona

Kyrsten Sinema (D)
Martha McSally (R)

Florida

Bill Nelson (D-Incumbent)
Rick Scott (R)

Indiana

Joe Donnelly (D-Incumbent)
Mike Braun (R)

Maine

Zak Ringelstein (D)
Eric Brakey (R)

Michigan

Debbie Stabenow (D-Incumbent)
John James (R)

Missouri

Claire McCaskill (D-Incumbent)
Josh Hawley (R)

Montana

Jon Tester (D-Incumbent)
Matt Rosendale (R)

Nevada

Jacky Rosen (D)
Dean Heller (R-Incumbent)

North Dakota

Heidi Heitkamp (D-Incumbent)
Kevin Cramer (R)

Ohio

Sherrod Brown (D-Incumbent)
Jim Renacci (R)

Pennsylvania

Bob Casey, Jr. (D-Incumbent)
Lou Barletta (R)

Tennessee

Phil Bredeson (D)
Marsha Blackburn (R)

West Virginia

Joe Manchin (D-Incumbent)
Patrick Morrisey (R)

Wisconsin

Tammy Baldwin (D-Incumbent)
Leah Vukmir (R)

New Online Tool

**GET OUT
AND
PRAY**

MOBILIZING LOCAL PRAYER FOR THE NATION



This new tool is designed to equip the Body of Christ to pray for God-fearing candidates to be elected.

Get Out and Pray is the place to:

- Find and pray for candidates and elected officials in your local district
- Discover and engage with others in your area who are praying for the nation
- Identify and adopt a street in your district for which you have a heart to pray
- Join thousands who are praying 24/7 for America and our leaders

Go to IFApray.org to use this governmental prayer tool.



FIRST FRIDAY PRAYER CONFERENCE CALL

Please plan on setting these important 30 minutes aside to join with hundreds across the U.S. in praying for America, its leaders, and its citizens on **November 2, 2018 from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. (ET)**

Call: (712) 432-0075 Access Code: 1412452#

To place orders with Intercessors for America, call (812) 814-9690 or visit IFAresources.com.

CONNECTING TO GOD