

HOW CHRISTIANS CAN **PRAY FOR** THE POLITICAL CANDIDATE *THEY WON'T BE VOTING FOR*

WRITTEN BY

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The United States Presidential election season is not only upon us; it's in full swing through every state and territory where citizens can legally vote. A huge voting block is comprised of Christians, and the candidates will vie for our support and endorsements. Differences aside, no matter which election season we face, how should we pray for the "other guy" — the candidate we choose not to support?

Even within our faith, differences between denominations amass over issues that, for some, will prevent them from voting for a particular person. Whether single-issue or "whole package" voters, as Christians, it's our privilege to cast a vote based on how our faith leads us.

However, we need to be careful to refrain from heated discussions with people who have opposing views. The Bible tells us to "Let your reasonableness be known to everyone" (Philippians 4:5). The passage continues by telling Christians the Lord is at hand and His peace will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7). As we interact with other voters and discover differences in values, we are to pray in our hearts and with other believers with thankfulness to the Lord and be peaceable.

The other person, whether Christian or not, will see our behavior and remember our actions. The best outcome? They will glorify God because of us (Galatians 1:24).

HOW DO I **PRAY** FOR THE PERSON I CHOOSE **NOT** TO SUPPORT?

Christians cannot be spectators only. Our role as Christians in politics is to obey the Lord and subject ourselves to the authorities God has placed over us. We owe our loyalty first to the Lord and we are to reflect His image to a lost and dying world.

What can we do? As kingdom dwellers here on earth, we can do much, starting with [prayer](#). Learn what you can about the candidates. Then pray some more and vote according to who you are in Christ and how His Spirit leads you through His Word. Remember, no matter who is in office and no matter what laws are enacted, "we must obey God rather than men" ([Acts 5:29](#)).

Following are prayers for the candidate we choose not to support.



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1. PRAYER FOR WISDOM

Father God,

I pray for this candidate today that you will give him or her wisdom as they run for office. As the candidate selects their running mate and maybe has to replace members of his or her staff or choose where to go and to whom they will speak, give them wisdom from above since they will be the leader of this nation. Give the candidate wisdom to understand all the many issues and facts that are presented to them. And help them decide on the best way to move forward — the best way to govern with a keen eye for trouble and a compassionate heart for the citizens over whom they have authority.

Help the candidate to know what is best for the people and for the nation.

Amen.



2. PRAYER FOR ADVISORS

Lord,

May this candidate gain the honest favor and trust of advisers who do not walk partisan lines, but instead, will seek the best for the people of the nation. Help the candidate with clarity of mind and focus as they choose who will “run” the country with them.

If this candidate does not win the election, may their advisers give the best counsel to lose graciously, and offer to help heal any wounds inflicted during any contentious debates or actions that occurred during their candidacy.

Amen.



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3. PRAYER FOR GRACE



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Father God,

Those who love the Lord [Jesus](#) best understand His grace. I pray You will immerse the candidate with gracious behavior as he or she runs for office. Things can get very heated when candidates square off on different issues. I pray You will supernaturally intercede and bring solid Christians alongside the candidate to show them what active grace looks like.

Amen.

4. PRAYER FOR HUMILITY

Father in heaven,

It's so easy to get caught up in ourselves and what we want. I pray you will keep the candidates from overwhelming pride that gets them to the point where they might say, "It's my way or nothing."



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Keep him or her humble and open to reason and grace. If he or she wins the election, please see that he or she accepts the office with great humility and a heart for serving others, not himself or herself.

Amen.

5. PRAYER FOR TRUTHFULNESS

Lord God,

The candidate may be asked a question where they are hit with an opportunity to lie to protect their reputation or even their chance at becoming president. If they reach that point, please intercede and cause them to stay truthful, no matter the cost. I pray for complete honesty from this candidate because if he or she wins, we must come to trust them as placed in office by You, Lord. We trust You first and foremost, but please give us reasons to trust the candidate as well.

Amen.



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6. PRAYER FOR SAFETY

Lord,

It's a scary thing to see the candidates on stages and greeting people all over the nation, because at any moment a harmful person could try to attack them. It does not matter whether I support this candidate; what matters is Your plans and purposes. I pray part of Your purpose is to keep this candidate safe as they display what freedom to vote means to the world. Use it to show the nations where freedom is restricted that freedom is good.

Amen.



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7. PRAYER FOR HEALTH

Father,

As the candidate goes seemingly nonstop throughout the country seeking positive voters and making many promises, their health may falter from such a demanding schedule. Please help them get through it with energy and good health. Keep them from sickness and disease as they seek office so the election will be fair and as impartial as possible.

Amen.



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8. PRAYER FOR SALVATION



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O Lord God,

What I pray for most of all is the salvation of the candidate. So many before have claimed to be Christian who are not. Expose any hypocrisy and bring this candidate to a true and saving knowledge of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. I pray You will call the candidate to Yourself, and he or she will repent in faith and surrender to Jesus Christ. Bring true, biblical Christians alongside the candidate to counsel, pray for, and comfort him or her with Scripture for every moment.

I pray for all these things in the magnificent and holy name of Christ.

Amen.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord,

Help us to be the people You've created us to be. Help us to reflect You and glorify You in all we are and do. As we grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus, give us wisdom to discern how to vote and counsel others. For it's in Jesus' name, I pray.

Amen.



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AUTHOR

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Lisa Loraine Baker is the multiple award-winning author of *Someplace to be Somebody*. She writes fiction and nonfiction. In addition to writing for the Salem Web Network, Lisa serves as a Word Weavers' mentor and is part of a critique group.

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