

# Pastor's Pen

Vote or Not to Vote!

"I appeal to Caesar." Then Festus, when he had conferred with his council, answered, "To Caesar you have appealed; to Caesar you shall go." Acts 25:11-12

Last week prominent US evangelical pastor and theologian John Piper, outlined why he's "probably" not going to vote for Donald Trump.

"When a leader models self-absorbed, self-exalting boastfulness, he models the most deadly behavior in the world. He points his nation to destruction....It is naive to think that a man can be effectively pro-life and manifest consistently the character traits that lead to death — temporal and eternal."

There have been other Christians who have said that choosing between the lesser of two evils is not an option for believers and therefore we should not vote. I want to address each of the positions mentioned above. First, should a Christian vote for a man or woman that is morally corrupt? We need to understand that anyone running for President of the United States is probably not a Christian. Think about it just for a moment. If a true believer was asked how does one obtain eternal life they would respond that making Jesus Christ Lord and Savior of your life. The very next question would be, "So does that mean anyone who does not believe in this Jesus will go to hell?". A Christians reply would be, "Yes", and that would be the end of their political career. We need to understand that we are not voting for a person who fulfills the qualifications of Titus 1 to be the leader of a local church. This election is about who and what party stands against evil. In 2016 President Trump promised to appoint conservative Justices to the Supreme Court that would lead to the overturning of Roe V Wade. He has done what he promised, he has appointed three conservative justices. I did not vote because of the character of the man I voted on his promise to appoint those conservative justices. Gary DeMar wrote a rebuttal to Piper. He finished with the following:





"I'll end with this: I am sure the Jews being sent to the gas ovens were more concerned about their own physical death at the command of a tyrant than someone who might be arrogant but worked to stop the trains on the way to their doom. There is a difference, and anyone unable to note the difference is confused."

Second, when Paul was getting ready to be tried before Festus he appealed to Caesar. As a Roman citizen Paul had the right not to be tortured or put to death before Caesar heard the case. He exercised his rights as a Roman citizen. As a Christian in the United States of America you have the right to appeal to "Caesar" by casting your vote. It is the duty of every believer to stand against evil. Not voting is allowing the evil to continue without you doing anything to try to prevent the promotion and continuation of evil. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a pastor in Nazi Germany who was executed for his opposition to Hitler. He said the following to the Christians in Germany who allowed the extermination of the Jewish people. "Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." Christian, you not only have the right to vote but a duty to vote for the candidate and party that promotes life and stands against the evil of perversion that is sweeping over our nation.

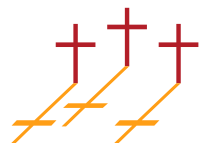
Your shepherd,  
Pastor Mark

## Quote of the Week

"There's no way that a Christian can affirm the slaughter of babies, homosexual activity, homosexual marriage, or any kind of gross immorality,"  
-John MacArthur

2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION		
VOTER GUIDE		
EARLY VOTING BEGINS MONDAY, OCTOBER 19		
 www.millionvoices.org	 www.FLfamily.org	
		
<b>R DONALD TRUMP</b>	<b>D JOE BIDEN</b>	
<b>LATE TERM ABORTION</b> Unrestricted, late-term abortion	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>1</sup>	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>14</sup>
<b>RELIGIOUS FREEDOM</b> Federal protection of individual's and/or entities' religious convictions	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>2</sup>	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>15</sup>
<b>GUN CONTROL</b> Increased gun control regulations	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>3</sup>	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>16</sup>
<b>SUPREME COURT JUSTICES</b> Appointments of justices who interpret the Constitution by adhering to the framer's original intent and text	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>4</sup>	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>17</sup>
<b>PRISON REFORM</b> Reduced mandatory minimums, commuted sentences, and rehabilitation	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>5</sup>	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>18</sup>
<b>PARENTAL CHOICE IN EDUCATION</b> Funding for charter schools and/or vouchers	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>6</sup>	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>19</sup>
<b>IMMIGRATION</b> Controlling U.S. borders and defunding sanctuary cities	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>7</sup>	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>20</sup>
<b>LAW AND ORDER</b> Deployment of law-enforcement and federal assistance to riot-impacted communities	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>8</sup>	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>21</sup>
<b>TAX CUTS</b> To stimulate economic recovery	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>9</sup>	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>22</sup>
<b>ISRAEL</b> U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>10</sup>	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>23</sup>
<b>GREEN NEW DEAL</b> Comprehensive climate change regulations	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>11</sup>	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>24</sup>
<b>WOMEN'S SPORTS</b> Allowing biological male athletes who identify as female to participate in girls' sports	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>12</sup>	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>25</sup>
<b>PLANNED PARENTHOOD</b> Federal funding of Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers	<b>O</b> OPPOSES <sup>13</sup>	<b>S</b> SUPPORTS <sup>26</sup>

THIS VOTER GUIDE IS SOURCE COMPLIANT AND APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION BY SOURCE ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING CHURCHES. THE PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE IS TO EDUCATE VOTERS, NOT TO ENDORSE ANY PARTICULAR CANDIDATE.



# Weekly Gatherings



## Bible Classes

New Testament  
Sunday School  
Sunday Morning @ 9-9:45 & 10-10:45



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Zoom Bible Study



## Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM  
Teaching Series (Online Only)



## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM  
Youth Study  
AWANA @6:30PM-8PM



## Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30AM & 10:30AM  
Children's Church @10:30AM

### Giving from service on 10/25/2020

General Offering .....	5,648.95
Building Fund .....	.361.35
Uganda .....	100.00
Total .....	6,110.30

Attendance .....168

### Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org  
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org  
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org  
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org  
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org  
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org  
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org  
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org  
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org  
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org  
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org  
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org  
Security-security@ghbcva.org



Grace Harvest  
Baptist Church  
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# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Nov 1, 2020

