

Even in the most peaceful and fair elections, tensions often mount as elections draw near. Elections tend to intensify divisions between different religious groups, tribes, and ideologies. Political differences can even damage relationships within families and the body of Christ. In too many countries, though, transitions of power often come with tremendous upheaval and violence.

The Bible tells us that there is no authority except what God has established (Romans 13:1-6). He is the King of kings, and uses both godly and ungodly leaders for His purposes (Exodus

9-11). Yet that does not mean that elections are not important. We also see through the biblical narrative that when the kings of the nation of Israel followed God's ways, the nation and its people flourished; when the kings turned away from God, the whole nation suffered. The same holds true today. God's people need to be praying, on behalf of our nations, that His will would be done in and through elections.

## Please pray with us...

- Pray that God would establish authorities according to His plans and purposes.
- Pray that godly people would sense and respond to God's calling to stand as candidates for leadership positions. Pray for churches to support, rather than discourage, Christians running for office.
- Pray for all Christians to hold fast to our citizenship in the Kingdom of God and to keep an eternal perspective as we participate in elections. Pray for peaceful fellowship in the body of Christ across political divides.
- For candidates, pray for integrity, humility, and a genuine desire to serve the people selflessly.
- For voters, pray for discernment regarding candidates and issues and that they would choose leaders whose values align with scripture. Pray that voters would not be deceived, but would recognize truth and lies.
- · For the election process:
  - Pray that election days would be peaceful and orderly. Ask the Holy Spirit to bring calm to polling stations. Pray that every citizen would be able to cast their vote without fear.
  - Pray that God would protect elections against corruption, tampering, or anything else that would disrupt or undermine a fair process.
  - Pray that people would have patience to wait for election results and would respect the outcome, trusting that God's will is being done.

