



## General Election 2024 Tips, FAQs, Suggestions

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**Should you vote? – Absolutely!** Every election involves a decision between flawed candidates. Our advice is to ignore your emotions and whether you “like” a candidate. Choose instead based on past **promises and achievement against those promises**; and examine a candidate’s **character**. If you’re a Believer, measure each candidate against Scriptural standards.

**Do Your Candidate Research Early!** – Citizenship involves doing your own homework – don’t be so foolish as to arrive at the polls not knowing for whom you will vote. Don’t wait until the deadline. Watch debates. Visit websites. Attend meetings. Ask those you know to be politically savvy. If you meet a candidate, ask him/her directly about what matters to you. **Do NOT** base your choice on direct mail, commercials or advertising! Understand that a great deal of “last minute” messages are lies and deceit.

**How to vote** – We recommend that you vote *in person*, during the Early Voting period, Oct. 26 – Nov. 3. We believe this is the most secure method. We expect voting to be crowded this year, and in NJ, we have seen major problems with machines on Election Day. Should there be crowds and malfunctions, you may need to leave the polling place without casting a vote – a very bad idea with no recourse if it is Election Day. Voting early gives you more time and options. We do not recommend Vote-By-Mail because it is the least secure method. But use it if that’s the **ONLY** way you can vote. If you **DO** use a vote-by-mail ballot, we recommend you deliver it personally to a secure Ballot Box at your county Board of Elections site, **not** put it in the U.S. Mail. Hundreds of ballots were not delivered in time to be counted last year.

**Caution** – In New Jersey, if you have requested a Vote-by-Mail Ballot, you will **NOT** be allowed to vote using a machine, even if you bring your ballot to the polls. Your only option would be to vote using the VBM ballot, and deposit it in a Ballot Box or U.S. Mail box before 8 pm Election Day ... or, to complete a Provisional Ballot at your polling place (which can take 30 minutes or more to complete).

**Sample Ballot** – You cannot vote using a Sample Ballot, but you can bring it to the polls to help you check-in and vote by machine.

**Plan Ahead When You’ll Vote** – Block out time, in advance, for **when** you will vote. Leave extra time this year, anticipating a heavy voter turnout. Remember, you cannot wear candidate logos or hand out candidate literature within 100 feet of a polling place.