

Bishop's Office Message for November, 2004

Dear Partners in Ministry,

The presidential election in the United States will soon be history. Watching the debates, there is little doubt that this election will have a significant effect on many issues with worldwide implications. However we feel about the war in Iraq and the road map for peace in the Middle East, Canada will be drawn in to US political decisions one way or another. The many border issues between Canada and the United States have affected manufacturing, farming, and forest industries in Canada. It has been fascinating to see the debate on health care and drug costs, and how decisions made in the US will affect Canada in these areas in the future.

It is easy to become cynical of the political process. At the same time, we Christians are called upon to pray for our leaders and the leaders of the nations of the world. As citizens in a democratic society, we are called upon to exercise our vote and to participate in the political process. We need to encourage Christians who are gifted leaders to run for public office. I urge you to pray for the United States as their election approaches, and to pray for Canadian politicians at every level of government, that God would grant wisdom, compassion for those least fortunate in society, and a heart for peace that reflects God's love for the world demonstrated in Jesus.

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