PRAY VOTE STAND
CHAPTERS
an initiative of Family Research Council



CHAPTER Manual

> “And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in.”
>
> ISAIAH 58:12

THE NEED FOR PRAY VOTE STAND CHAPTERS

Throughout history, Christians have embraced the call to bring a salt and light influence into the public square, resulting in freedom, justice, and human flourishing for many. Pray Vote Stand Chapters embrace that call by equipping believers to engage locally, prayerfully, and biblically, with the goal of reviving true freedom in our nation.

What could happen if Christians across America took seriously the call to be salt and light in their own communities (Matthew 5:13-14)? While political change can affect the landscape of our nation, the deepest needs of our culture will never be solved by government alone. At its core, America’s crisis is spiritual (Ephesians 6:12), and the Church cannot afford to step to the sidelines.



Pray Vote Stand Chapters will bring people together to pray for their communities and government leaders, vote and influence elected officials for good, and stand for biblical truth. By doing so, Chapters can alter the spiritual climate of the community which will in turn impact the political environment. These chapters are helping lay the foundation for national renewal, one community at a time.

The core pillars of the Chapters are based on the following Bible verses:

- **Pray**: "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way." (1 Timothy 2:1-2). This passage tells us to lift up all people in prayer, and specifically notes the importance of praying for our government leaders so that we can live the lives God has called us to.

- **Vote**: "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone..." (Galatians 6:10). While we do not see the word "vote" in Scripture, this verse tells us that we are to make the most of every opportunity that we have and do good to all. In America, voting and engaging are opportunities we have thanks to the freedoms we have been given. Voting and advancing righteous policies are ways we can do good to those around us, because policies always impact people. Good leaders and policies will help them; bad leaders and policies will cause harm.

- **Stand**: "...and having done all... stand firm." (Ephesians

6:13). This verse is shared in the context of putting on the armor of God and standing against evil. We are not called to be blown about by the winds of culture, or carried away by the latest trends, but rather to stand for biblical truth and love in all that we do.

Our goal is to see at least one PVS Chapter in every county in the U.S. in the next decade, helping lay the foundation for true revival and lasting freedom.

MISSION

The mission of Pray Vote Stand Chapters is to renew faith and revive freedom in America, one community at a time.

Chapters equip believers to:

- **Unite** with fellow Christians in their community.
- **Pray** for leaders and local & national needs.
- **Discern** specific needs of their community and action steps.
- **Engage** biblically to impact government and culture for good.

Together, these commitments create a grassroots movement rooted in prayer and Scripture, aiming to see strong families, safe communities, the sanctity of life upheld, religious freedom protected, and faith flourish.



PRAY VOTE STAND CHAPTERS 101

A Pray Vote Stand Chapter is a local gathering of believers, rooted in the local church, and committed to prayer, biblical engagement, and cultural impact.

Rooted in the Local Church

Pray Vote Stand Chapters are designed to be rooted in the local church, providing fellowship, support, and a place of unity for believers. The Church is God's vehicle for equipping the saints and impacting the world, making it the natural home for this work. By being anchored in a local body, Chapters ensure that their efforts flow from a strong biblical foundation and are supported by a Christian community.

Committed to Prayer

Prayer is the foundation of every Pray Vote Stand Chapter. Before any action is taken or plans are made, we seek God's direction, wisdom, and provision, knowing that true renewal comes only by His Holy Spirit. When chapter members unite in prayer, they invite God's presence into their community and lay the groundwork for lasting spiritual and cultural renewal.

Each chapter serves as a hub where Christians can:

- Pray for their communities and government leaders.
- Be equipped with biblical resources for understanding cultural issues.
- Encourage one another in faithful action.
- Provide a faithful witness for truth in the public square.

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WHAT IS A PRAY VOTE STAND LEADER?

A Chapter Leader carries the important responsibility of setting the tone and guiding the direction of their local group. Leaders are not expected to have all the answers—they are shepherds who help bring believers together around prayer, biblical truth, and government engagement.

Chapter Leaders should:

- Root their chapter in prayer and Scripture.
- Guide meetings with clarity and encouragement.
- Build relationships with members and foster unity.
- Identify the needs of their community and mobilize their group to respond biblically.
- Serve as the main connection point with FRC, receiving resources and updates, and sharing feedback on calls with other leaders and FRC staff.

Chapter Leaders help their group stay focused on the mission: renewing faith and reviving freedom one community at a time.

Who Can Be a Chapter Leader?

Anyone who is a Christ follower with a heart for prayer, a love for God's Word, and a desire to see their community transformed can lead a Pray Vote Stand Chapter. A Chapter leader should also demonstrate leadership qualities such as a shepherd's heart to guide and support people, and the ability to provide structure and direction for the group.

WHAT IS A CHAPTER MEMBER?

Each Chapter member has a role to play in praying, discerning, and engaging their community. While leaders provide direction, members provide the strength and momentum that makes a chapter thrive.

Chapter Members should:

- Faithfully participate in monthly gatherings.
- Pray regularly for their community, leaders, and the needs identified by the group.
- Bring their unique gifts and perspectives to the Chapter's efforts.
- Encourage one another in faith and action.
- Serve as salt and light in the community.
- Support the initiatives the Chapter undertakes.

Every Chapter member plays an important role as the Chapter pursues a community where families are strengthened, communities are protected, the sanctity of life is upheld, religious freedom is protected, and faith flourishes.



HOW ARE CHAPTER MEMBERS APPROVED?

Individuals can participate in monthly meetings for free. If they want to apply to officially join a chapter, they can do so online at frc.org/chapters by selecting the chapter they would like to join as part of the application process. Once they are approved by the FRC team, the leader will have a chance to review their application and decide whether to accept them into their Chapter.

GETTING STARTED & FORMING YOUR GROUP

Starting a Pray Vote Stand Chapter may feel daunting, but it's meant to be simple, prayer-driven, and rooted in your local church and community. This section provides practical steps to help you launch your group and keep it strong.

1. Pray First

- Ask the Lord for wisdom and guidance as you prepare to lead your group.
- Pray for your pastor and church leadership, asking God to unify you in this mission.
- Pray that God would raise up people in your community to join your group.



2. Talk with Your Pastor

- A key facet of PVS Chapters is that they are rooted in the local church. Schedule a time to meet with your pastor or appropriate pastoral staff to share your vision for the PVS Chapters and discuss logistics, such as where the chapter will meet (if on the church property or not), to ensure you are on the same page.

3. Choose a Meeting Time & Place

- Decide on a consistent monthly meeting time.
- Meet in a church classroom, living room, coffee shop, or public meeting room that will accommodate your group as it grows.
  If needed, you can also gather via Zoom or another video platform.

4. Grow Your Group & Organize the Members

- The size of your group isn't the main focus. The goal is to gather a committed team of believers. Your Chapter may start small and grow over time. "Do not despise the day of small things" (Zechariah 4:10). Trust that God will bring the right people.
- It's okay to start small—invite 5–10 people who share your passion for prayer, biblical truth, and cultural engagement.
- If members bring specific skills, you may find it helpful to assign functional roles (e.g., communicator, researcher, prayer leader, event coordinator). If they have a strong passion for a particular issue, you may divide them by topics (e.g., family, sanctity of life, community safety). Most Chapters will use a combination of both approaches.

Possible Roles

- **Lead** – Directs the Chapter, communicates vision, connects with the pastor, coordinates the group.
- **Prayer Support** – Organizes the prayer initiatives of the group such as ensuring local leaders are being prayed for or making sure the group is aware of prayer needs in the community.
- **Research** – Researches important issues and policy developments, and provides clear, accurate information to the group.
- **Communications** – Shares updates within the group and through the Stand Firm app community.
- **Mobilization** – Encourages involvement in prayer walks, voter registration, voter materials distribution, service projects, outreach, and other events the Chapter decides to take on.
- **Strategy** – Helps develop creative approaches for the Chapter to address key community needs.

5. Budgeting for Basic Resources

Launching and sustaining a Chapter doesn't require a large budget, but there may be some expenses. Consider how you will cover items like:

- Printing handouts or prayer guides
- Providing light refreshments at meetings
- Hosting a small event, prayer walk, or service project
- Purchasing materials such as Bibles, books, or training resources

Often these needs can be met by members contributing to cover the costs, a small church budget line, or donations from those who want to support the Chapter's work.



6. Set Up Your App Community

We encourage you to create a community for your chapter and invite your members to join. This can serve as a **central hub for communication** with your group. It is often much easier to manage than a group text and allows you to share updates, prayer requests, resources, and event details all in one place.

Once your members join your community, remind them to **turn on notifications** in their phone settings so they can receive updates from you. To notify your group members, you can:

- Tag individual members using @username
- Notify everyone in the group by using @here

You can also **invite members directly** to join your community inside the app.

CREATING A COMMUNITY IN THE STAND FIRM APP

1. **Download the Stand Firm App** and create an account. The app can be found in both the App Store and the Google Play Store.
2. **Tap the PVS Chapters tab** at the bottom of the screen.
3. **Tap the + at the top of the screen** to create a new community.
4. **Toggle Private so your group is invite-only.**
5. **Name the community** after your chapter and add a short description.
   - Your community should have the same name as your chapter with the state, for example:
     - "McDuffie County, GA"
     - "Alexandria, VA"
     - "Greater Wake County, NC"

- Enter your ZIP code
- Add a description that explains the chapter's purpose and vision.
- Select Topics and Tags (optional).
- Choose an image for your chapter from the options provided.

6. Invite your chapter members to join.

- If you are a chapter leader, we also encourage you to join the PVS Chapter Leaders Community in the app, where you can connect with other leaders, ask questions, share ideas, and receive updates from our team.



Logos, Titles, and Legal Matters

Chapter leaders may use their Pray Vote Stand Chapter title for identification purposes only. The title should not be used to lobby, endorse, or oppose legislation, candidates, political parties, or ballot measures. Any political activity must be done personally, and leaders should make it clear that their views are their own, and not the Chapter's. If the Chapter name is used for identification, a simple disclaimer can note that no endorsement or statement by the Chapter is implied.

The Pray Vote Stand and FRC logos may appear on Chapter materials. Leaders and members should not use these logos for other purposes without written approval from FRC. Logos should remain unaltered and may not be combined with other trademarks. All materials, content, and intellectual property provided by FRC or created through Chapter activities remain the property of FRC, helping ensure consistency and protecting the work of the organization.

For more information, please see the Pray Vote Stand Chapter Agreement in the Resource Library, or reach out to the FRC Team.

PLANNING CHAPTER MEETINGS

Once you have the basics of your chapter ironed out (location, times, etc.), start planning what your group will do during the meetings. It could be as simple as praying for your community together. The Resource Library is also a great start. We recommend all Chapters begin by working through the God & Government Course. This course not only provides a firm foundation and understanding of how our government operates, but it also shows the biblical principles that influenced our founding fathers and explains the responsibility of every believer to engage with government from a biblical worldview.

In addition to God & Government, the Resource Library also contains templates, guides, and books that can be incorporated into your Chapter meetings.

The following is a sample of what the first couple months of your Chapter meetings could look like:

Month 1:

- Bring a group together to watch and discuss the *God & Government* video course (we will email you the link to the



course). This course lays the biblical foundation for civic engagement. It can be a great way to find people who are interested in learning more.

- ◊ Watch *God & Government* Sessions 1-4*
- ◊ Introduce the vision of Pray Vote Stand Chapters
- ◊ Incorporate prayer at the end of each meeting time

Month 2:

- → Watch *God & Government* Sessions 5-6*.
- → Start compiling a list of all the local officials to pray for by name (federal, state, and local).
- → Assign officials' names to group members for prayer and begin praying regularly.

**This course is six weeks. We recommend the group watch one per week together so that the content stays fresh, and then transition to a monthly meeting once all six videos are completed.*

However, you have the flexibility to watch these at a different cadence if that is best for your group (every other week, once a month, etc.). The final God & Government video discusses the action steps "Pray Vote Stand" and is a great transition into the other activities of your Chapter.



Month 3:

- Transition to focus on monthly prayer for your community and the following areas (you can use the *How to Host a Prayer Gathering* template we provide):
  - The government official names from the list you compiled
  - Specific needs in the community related to issues like strong families and marriages, faith and religious freedom, sanctity of life, schools and education, and community safety
  - National needs related to issues like those mentioned above
- Host a prayer walk at a local government building.

Month 4 and Beyond:

- As your Chapter is praying, together you can discern specific ways to engage in your community. These goals should align with the mission of Pray Vote Stand Chapters.
- Use a portion of your monthly meeting to discuss ideas and organize efforts. These could include things like:
  - Specific government officials to build relationships with
  - Inviting government officials to share legislative updates and be prayed for
  - Organizing events (such as a prayer breakfast).
- Go through the Center for Biblical Worldview publications together and discuss what the Bible teaches about these cultural topics.

During election season, your Chapter can:

- Track key election information in your area (election dates, voter registration dates, early voting dates, etc.) and distribute that info to your church and community.
- Conduct voter registration drives in your church and community.
- Distribute educational voter guides (FRC and FRC Action provide these for several races).

Chapters are encouraged to stay informed, seek God's guidance, and identify areas where prayer and action can make a difference.

DISCERNING AND SHARING NEEDS

A key role of Pray Vote Stand Chapters is to prayerfully discern the needs of their local community. This may include upcoming school board decisions, local elections, important legislation, or other issues affecting families, community safety, the sanctity of life, and religious freedom. Chapters are encouraged to stay informed, seek God's guidance, and identify areas where prayer and action can make a difference.

Once these needs are identified, share them with your pastor and congregation to involve the whole church in intercession and action. Regular communication is essential and can take many forms. One of the most impactful ways to share important information is through a pulpit announcement by the pastor. Because these carry significant weight, they should be used thoughtfully and sparingly for matters of particular importance.

In addition to pulpit announcements, Chapters can maintain an ongoing dialogue with the congregation through:

- Email or text updates
- Social media posts
- Announcement slides
- Small group discussions
- A designated table or booth at the church



By engaging the congregation in this way, Chapters help amplify their impact, uniting the body of Christ in prayer and action for the community.

THE RESOURCE LIBRARY

The Pray Vote Stand Resource Library is a collection of practical, biblically grounded tools designed to strengthen your Chapter and equip your members for the task of renewing faith and reviving freedom.

You can access it at **frc.org/chapters/resources**.

The Resource Library includes:

- **Courses and Training** – Foundational resources like the *God & Government* course, which provides biblical teaching on government, civic responsibility, and cultural engagement.
- **Prayer Guides** – Templates such as the Local Government Prayer Guide to help you pray strategically for leaders and officials by name.

- **Issue Briefs & Booklets** – Biblically informed resources from the Center for Biblical Worldview and FRC experts that address cultural issues such as family, life, religious freedom, and political engagement.
- **Event Tools** – Guides for hosting prayer gatherings, voter registration drives, and community engagement activities.

How to Use the Resource Library

The Resource Library is designed to support your Chapter, not overwhelm it. Every Chapter is unique, so you should select the resources that best meet your group's needs. Think of the Library as a toolbox: you can use them at your discretion as you have need for them.

For example:

- A new Chapter might begin with the *God & Government* course to establish a biblical foundation.
- A Chapter preparing for election season might use voter registration guides or election resources.
- A Chapter focused on prayer may use the Local Government Prayer Guide and host regular prayer walks.

More to come! – We are continuing to make resources geared specifically towards equipping Pray Vote Stand Chapters and will alert you as we have a new resource!

ONE FINAL NOTE

Pray Vote Stand Chapters are more than just monthly gatherings—they are communities of believers committed to renewing faith and reviving freedom one community at a time. As you lead or join a chapter, remember that you are not alone. The Family Research Council team is here to support you every step of the way, ready to answer questions, provide resources, and walk beside you as you seek to be salt and light in your community.



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