

Don't We Need a Recount to Confirm the Election?

John Michener

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The election is over. The results were mixed, and some have even mentioned recounts.

The apostle Peter writes, "His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness... Therefore, brethren, make every effort to confirm your calling and election." (2 Peter 1:3-10). Peter was talking about living a godly life to confirm that we are spiritually elected.

Over this past month, I have felt the need to confirm my "election" in a different sense than Peter or any political candidates have meant it. After three years of serving as a missionary with Justice For All, has my term ended? Should I return to civilian life? Three things have given me the confirmation I was seeking: the support of my donors, the trust of our director, and our record of success.

First, without asking, I received a note from an elder at one of my supporting churches stating, "You can count on our continued support." He went on to say, "I know that your work at JFA has touched and saved a lot of lives."



Two other supporters contacted me to say they were giving me a performance-based pay increase. I am thankful for this unsolicited encouragement and increased support.

Second, I have been given new goals and responsibilities by our executive director. David Lee has asked me to take over several of his responsibilities on our national team, and I have also been given the task of developing a regional team that will bring more frequent JFA training and outreach to Oklahoma and North Texas.

Finally, I took some time to review and reflect on our successes. I read the comments and reflections of our students and volunteers who reported on lives saved and hearts changed. They told of how the JFA training program helped them develop spiritually and strengthened their faith. I remembered the story of Conny comforting an abused girl, of Amanda saving the life of an unborn child, and of Gloria choosing life for her baby.* These stories were the final hanging chad, that once counted, tipped the election in my favor.

Winston Churchill said, "To every man, there comes in his lifetime, that special moment, when he is physically tapped on the shoulder and offered the chance to do a very special thing, unique to him and fitted to his talent; what a tragedy if that moment finds him unprepared or unqualified for the work which would be his finest hour."

During my formative years, family members often said of me that I should become a preacher or a lawyer. While I have not been ordained and I have not passed the bar, I am still using my gifts to appeal to every soul to be reconciled to God and to present a reasoned case for the value of the unborn.

Because of the support of my donors, the trust of our director, and our record of success, I am committing myself to another two years of mission work with Justice For All. **Will you vote for me again?** Along with my recommitment, will you continue to support this work financially, and if you are able, give me a raise for the coming year? Use the enclosed <u>form</u> to increase your regular automatic giving or to give a special end-of-year gift.

-John Michener

* www.jfaweb.org/Impact/Conny www.jfaweb.org/Impact/Crash_Course www.jfaweb.org/Impact/Mum

Mobile: 405-326-1678 Web: www.JFAweb.org E-mail: John.Michener@JFAweb.org







"I was amazed at how open people were to know the truth. I got to share my faith with others, and it was a great experience. I feel like God used JFA and CCS today to help people understand their worldview and that the unborn is human and valuable."

-Tiara Atherton, high school student, Norman, OK

"This was the first time I got to defend my faith with someone who truly was against what I believed. I think I honestly planted a seed, and it was so cool for me. Thank you for giving me the opportunity and tools to defend what I believe."

-Ali Agee, high school senior, Norman, OK





