R- Righteous Governance - Righteous governance refers to a candidate's brand of leadership. How does your candidate decide on issues? How does he lead his family, constituents? Does he/she make decisions that promote justice, righteousness and peace for all law-abiding Filipinos? Does he/she use his influence as a platform for governing with prudence and foresight for the good of many? A candidate who governs righteously does not accept or offer bribes, and leads an example of eradicating graft and corruption within his area of influence.

I-Integrity - A person of integrity is not a perfect individual; rather, he or she is someone who desires to be accountable to those he leads. His walk should match his talk, and his public image must not be a result of a clever media makeover, but should be based on a solid character of trustworthiness. If and when he/she makes wrong decisions, he/she must be willing to take responsibility for it and not put the blame on others.

G-Giftedness - A candidate for a public office must have the qualifications and abilities necessary to carry out his/her responsibilities successfully. A candidate needs more than an impressive pedigree or diplomas, but must also have the strengths, personality traits and innate capabilities needed to serve in the particular office he/she seeks to serve in. Some candidates will be good as executives but will make for mediocre lawmakers, and vice versa. Others will be great managers, but will not be as effective in drug busting. Still others are visionaries who can inspire greatness in those they lead, but will fail as implementers of their dreams. Be careful in voting for a previously successful public official. Study the new position he or she is seeking to fill. The candidate might not be the best person to serve in that position. A great senator might not a great president make. Look for the kind of giftedness your candidate has.

Unfold up…

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H-Heart - How is your candidate's heart for God, for people and for our nation? Does he/she see himself/herself as answerable not only to people, but to Someone infinitely higher than him/her?

The heart, in my opinion, is the most important characteristic not only of a leader but also of every single citizen of this country. This is true because the heart of the problem of this nation is the problem of the heart. Genuine change should come from the inside out. Yes, all of us are already tired of lawlessness. Yet, many of us contribute to this lawlessness. Have you tried driving in Manila? Have you crossed EDSA as a pedestrian? All of us, not only our politicians, need to be reformed. To have genuine reform Jesus said, *"I am the way…"*

In his letter to the church of Corinth, the Apostle Paul wrote, *"Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old way of living has disappeared. A new way of living has come into existence"*.

To be *"in Christ"* means acknowledging that we need to be reformed because we are sinners. It means admitting that we need a Savior to save us from our wretchedness. It is recognizing what Jesus did 2000 years ago on the cross of Calvary… he paid the penalty of our sin.

STEPS TO FIND THE RIGHT CANDIDATE

Define the requirements carefully. This sounds ridiculously easy, but it's amazing how many voters will go to the precinct without determining exactly whom they need to vote. It's important to detail the specific criteria and desired personal characteristics, creating a "candidate's scorecard" that can be used in screenings to determine if a candidate can fulfill the requirements of the position. VoteRIGHT criteria can be used here.

Look for repeated patterns of success. Don't just look for previous political experience--find the candidates who have repeatedly made a mark and exceeded expectations, time and time again. Find out how they measure their own success and whether their experience tells a story of transformation.

Use a research method that will give you enough information. Regularly watch candidates debate, read newspaper and look where they stand on different issues. Check if they are doing something about the situation apart from criticizing others. Search them in the internet. Internet is the easiest way to get information. But be careful in using the internet or even other media. Not all information you will get is accurate. Most of the information are just commentary and often times bias against or for the candidates.

Analyze the information. When information about the candidates are collected, study them to discern patterns and formulate principles that might guide your decision.

Compare. Compare information of the candidate you gathered with that of the other candidates who are running for the same position.

Don't settle. With the situation we have in the Philippines, we can't settle for someone who is "good enough." In a down economy, you should never do this. Take the time you need to find the right candidate and make the right vote.

How do we choose the kind of leaders that will help turn our nation around?

We want to suggest a quick guide.

VOTERIGHT
A Vote For A Genuine Change