



# CAPITOL COMMISSION

*Reaching Capitol Communities for Christ™*

## The Purpose of Political Leadership

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Some people have the idea that the various parts of our lives can be isolated from other parts. For instance, they think their social life can be separate from their work life, or that their religious faith can be separated from their political life, and so on. But the truth is, making this kind of separation is impossible. We are singular individuals and the values we hold permeate every part of our lives. We may apply and express those values in different ways in different parts of our lives, but the values themselves permeate them all.

For those who serve in politics and government, this distinction is critical. The reason it is so important is that the decisions they make concerning policy reflect not only their personal values but also impose them on society at large. This is not a negative thing - in and of itself. It cannot be any other way. However, because of the widespread effect it has, it is essential that the values which leaders hold be those which will benefit society, not take it down a path of destruction.

Our founders established American culture on values which emerge from a Christian worldview. Their view of governing was that government's purpose was to provide an atmosphere where the citizens could have freedom, justice and security – all three at the same time. One place where these values are expressed in Scripture is in Zechariah 8:16-17. It reads:

*16 These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts; 17 do not plot evil against your neighbor, and do not love to swear falsely. I hate all this," declares the Lord.*

For a righteous atmosphere to exist in the land, those who hold positions of influence in government must, themselves, be personally ruled by these values. As you can see, true and sound judgment in the courts is preceded a personal commitment to speaking truth. Elimination of expressions of deceit in the culture is preceded by a pure heart which wishes the best for one's neighbor.

It is Christian worldview values which are the only solid foundation for a culture in which true freedom, justice and security are able to exist. And it is only as our governmental leaders live this personally and govern based on these values that we will see it work out in society.



\* Capitol Commission Florida is a non-partisan, non-political pastoral ministry to the political leaders, their families, their staffs, their political networks and lobbyists. The Capitol Commission State Director for Florida is Dr. Freddy Davis. Please feel free to make contact anytime there is any way we can serve you.