



# CAPITOL COMMISSION™

## God's Leader Series: Prayer Team Tips

SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

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*Leadership is challenging and problems are multiplied by the number of people involved. Some of our challenges do not seem to respond to standard management techniques. There may be a spiritual force prompting the person or problem that is menacing us. A most effective approach to dealing with a threat is to form a focus team. This lesson offers tips for leading a prayer team.*

### INTRODUCTION

Our ministry in the Capitol is aware of only a sampling of the problems faced by the hundreds of leaders in State government. Challenges include disagreements between people and groups, fair and accurate media reporting, program implementation, the impact of severe weather, and most importantly, health issues of those in leadership and their families. We help in the following ways: 1. Teaching weekly Bible studies, disseminating the notes, helping leaders avoid common people problems. 2. Listening/coaching leaders, applying Scripture to challenges. 3. Sharing weekly prayer concerns, sending more than twenty prayer requests to our more than two hundred prayer partners. 4. Coordinating a weekly prayer breakfast, during session, to address dozens of personal concerns. 5. Forming prayer teams, focusing on specific challenges that appear to be spiritual in nature. Today's study offers tips in developing an effective intercessory prayer team.

### PRAYER IS POTENT

*Romans 8:35-37 Can anything separate us from the love Christ has for us? Can troubles or problems or sufferings or hunger or nakedness or danger or violent death? As it is written in the Scriptures: "For you we are in danger of death all the time. People think we are worth no more than sheep to be killed." — Psalm 44:22 But in all these things we are completely victorious through God who showed his love for us.<sup>1</sup>*

The Apostle Paul expressed this bold confidence during much more serious circumstances than most of us see as we serve in Kansas government.

### TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE PRAYER TEAMS

Select a team leader with experience, connections with the people and/or problem to be addressed, and who will be a good example for team members (1Peter 5:3). Teams can meet or be in touch by phone or email.

Spiritual warfare is serious work! You are going on the offensive against Satan who goes about as a roaring lion, seeking to destroy your usefulness (1Peter 5:8).

Put on your spiritual armor each day. Your defense is to stand firm in truth, trusting God's Word and living right. Leave no place for Satan to counterattack, making you a casualty (Ephesians 6:13-15).

Your shield of faith and helmet of salvation is assurance that you are at peace with God and He is your strength (Ephesians 6:15-17, Romans 5:6-10).

Your offensive weapon, the sword, is prayer and the Word of God. This is infinitely more powerful than any of the enemies strategies (Acts, Chapter 12, Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 4:12, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5).<sup>2</sup>

### SUMMARY

A person may have come under spiritual attack merely due to success in service (Job 1:10). Another reason for affliction is that "ground" has been given to Satan through sin, unforgiveness, dabbling in the occult, etc.<sup>3</sup> The prescription for lost ground is to repent and take authority over the spiritual force behind the attack (Matthew 12:28-29). One reward for your prayer team service is that you are kept in fighting form! The warrior is less vulnerable to attack than is a lost sheep!

### A PRAYER

My Lord and My God, please help me to see beyond the obvious and to recognize any unseen source behind the opposition against me, my family, and my colleagues. Give me Your armor and Your strength in the battles ahead. I pray in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

<sup>1</sup> The Holy Bible, New Century Version. (Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 2005.

<sup>2</sup> John MacArthur, The MacArthur Study Bible. (Thomas Nelson) 2006. p1784.

<sup>3</sup> Dean Sherman, Spiritual Warfare. (YWAM Publishing). 1990. p.98.