



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

The Normal American Life

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When I was a child I remember reading in school about a book that was the staple in education for virtually all American children from as early as 1690 all the way up into the early decades of the twentieth century. Most scholars agree that this book was used by the Founding Fathers when they were children to learn to read and write. Many of your grandparents, great-grandparents and so on also learned to read, write and establish their basic personal belief system from this book. This book is *The New England Primer*.

Even though I'd heard about it, I never saw or read a copy of it for myself. As I type these words I have in front of me the Second Printing of the Unabridged Reprint of the Eighteenth Century Edition. It is a small, short book. The pages are only about 3" x 5". There are about 80 pages in the complete book. Over 5 million copies were sold in the nineteenth century alone!

The content is stunning.

Did you know that:

- Our forefathers learned the alphabet by memorizing Bible verses?
- Our forefathers learned to pray to the One True God, the God of the Bible, from this *public school* book?
- This book taught American children a worldview based on the truth of the Bible?
- The focus of this educational book was to point every American to the world's only Savior, The Lord Jesus Christ?

In 1778, Ben Franklin wrote to the French, "He who shall introduce into public affairs the principles of Christianity will change the face of the world."

I wonder, have *you* ever read the Bible, the book documented to be the most accurate piece of literature from all of antiquity, to find out what it really says, to find out the foundations of the United States of America?

Our American nation is from before its formal beginnings a Bible nation. Jesus Christ is Lord. Check out the evidence for yourself. It just might change your life!

LA & SUPPORT STAFF BIBLE STUDY – THIS FRIDAY @ 11AM – CAPITOL ROOM 229

*Capitol Commission Minnesota is a non-partisan, non-political pastoral ministry to the political leaders, their families, their staffs and their political networks in the State of Minnesota. Dale Witherington is the State Director and can be reached at 651.785.3647 and at dale.witherington@capitolcom.org. Visit us on the web at www.capitolcom.org.