

Capitol Commission Missouri is part of a nationwide ministry group currently serving in 17 states. The headquarters of Capitol Commission is located in Raleigh, NC. Our desire is to minister in all 50 State Capitols, in Washington, D.C. and capitols throughout the world.

**CAPITOL
COMMISSION
MISSOURI**

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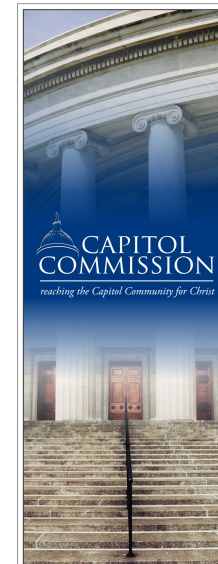


**CAPITOL
COMMISSION**

August 2010

Capitol Commission District Partner's Handbook

**A booklet of helps for ministry to our Missouri
state legislative officials.**



What's Inside??

- Reminder of what you signed up for.
- Helps with making the first contact.
- Interaction guidelines and suggestions

Proverbs 25:5

*Take away the wicked
from before the king,
And his throne will be
established in
righteousness.*

Contact/Appointments

Keep track of your various cards, emails, phone calls, office visits, lunches or events. In a short time you will not need this, but it can be helpful as you get started.

State Representative

When	How	Prayer Items/Reminders

State Senator

When	How	Prayer Items/Reminders

Resources

Websites

- Capitol Commission — www.capitolcom.org
- Missouri State Government — www.mo.gov
- Dr. Al Mohler — www.albertmohler.com (good commentary on culture and government)
- Grace To You — www.gty.org (excellent sermons and studies from Dr. John MacArthur)

**Find out if your representative or senator has a web-site or Facebook page. These can be helpful in keeping in contact with them, getting some timely news, and finding out events in which they may be involved.

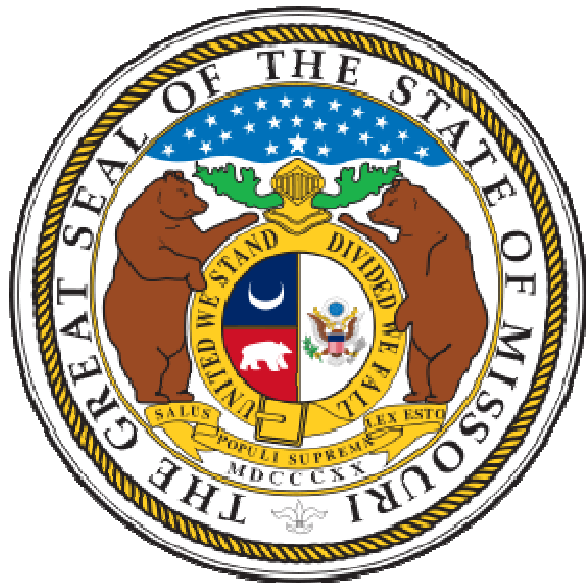


Books

- Why Government Can't Save You* — John MacArthur
- Why the Cross Can Do What Politics Can't* — Erwin Lutzer
- Civil Government: A Biblical View* — Robert D. Culver
- Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery* — Eric Metaxas
- Sinners in the Hands of an Angry Church* — Dean Merrill

**Some of these books are out of print; thus, they may be hard to find. Each one can be helpful in the service and ministry to our leaders. This list is not exhaustive, but is an example of the type of readings that are good tools.

NOTE: When talking with your legislator's staff in the capitol, do not forget to minister to them. Show much kindness, especially if they are calling to postpone an appointment. Ask how you can pray for them. When you meet them face-to-face, be sure they know you care about them, as you care about their boss. Sometimes, they are the “forgotten” person in this environment.



Welcome to the Team

**Dear Capitol Commission Missouri
District Partner,**



We are glad you have joined with our team as we all strive to minister and serve those whom God has placed in authority over our state and nation (1 Cor. 13:1-2). I pray that God will grant you many opportunities to minister to your district's legislators, along with any other leaders that He brings into your path.

The purpose of this booklet is to better equip you in this special area of ministry. Some of you know your legislators and are already friends with them. Most of you, though, are like me. Before I entered this realm of ministry, I had no personal interactions with government leaders. In preparation for this work, those who had experience helped me become better acquainted with this arena. So I hope to pass along some help to you, as you step into this work.

It is also my hope that as we work together, we will also grow in brotherhood; not only with the elected leaders, but also with other District Partners throughout the state and with us who are serving in the capitol building.

I hope this booklet is a help to you. It is a work in progress. We want to know how to best equip our partners as we serve together. Therefore, I need to know from you what is helpful and what is not. Feel free to contact me, if you have any questions or need ideas.

May God be honored in the good works He is doing through you with your leaders.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul'.

A District Partner is someone...

- ...who understands God has ultimately placed their leaders in office for His purposes and glory (Romans 13:1-5). Regardless of party affiliation or political stances, God establishes leaders to be of service to Him.
- ...who is resolved to pray for the souls of the government officials that serve his or her district—Federal Senators, Congressmen, State Senators and Representatives, county and city officials. Praying for them to be saved and/or to grow in the grace and knowledge of God. Praying for them by name on a regular basis.
- ...who will attempt to meet with their state legislative officials at least once throughout year. This meeting will be for the purpose of ministering to the legislator. The expression of political views is not the goal and does not reflect the ministry of Capitol Commission. It is important to let our legislators know that there are people praying for them who are concerned about them as people.
- ...who will attempt to go to Jefferson City at least once during the legislative session (January to May) each year to visit his or her area state representative and senator. This could be scheduled around an annual Pastors/Partners Day in the Capitol.
- ...who is resolved to pray for Capitol Commission Missouri. Praying that the minister in the capitol will be bold in sharing the gospel and wise in discipling the believers in their growth of the grace and knowledge of God.
- ...who will attempt to be a part of area-wide Capitol Commission gatherings.

The goal may be to have one District Partner; but more than one in each district would be even better. District Partners are encouraged to recruit others in their area who meet the above criteria to join them in ministering to their leaders.

Prayer for Capitol Commission State Directors

The next time you sit down to pray for us and your other missionary brothers and sisters, consider staying away from the generalizations you have heard and used all your life. Instead, use this simple list to help you pray specifically and as consistently as you can. The reward will be worth the effort.

- **Love for God** *Mark 12:30*
"Pray, then that the supreme motivation for obedience to the call of Christ in all that we do is love for Him."
- **Genuine Love For Others** *Mark 12:31*
"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else." (1 Thess. 3:12a)
- **Fruit of The Spirit** *Galatians 5:22,23*
Pray that the fruit of the Spirit, the very beauty of Jesus, will be evident in our life.
- **Wisdom and Knowledge** *James 1:5*
Pray we will be granted this wisdom and will be filled with the knowledge of His will and understanding when establishing priorities, facing decisions, and solving problems.
- **Courage** *Ephesians 6:19*
Pray that we will have the courage to boldly share the truth of the Gospel regardless of possible opposition and rejection.
- **Disciples** *Matthew 28:19a*
Pray that we will experience the joy of guiding others to salvation, and "teaching them to obey everything Christ commanded them."
- **Material Needs** *Philippians 4:19*
Please pray that God will supply all the financial and material needs, "according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus."

Prayer for Legislators

The book of **Proverbs** was written primarily by Solomon who had been given a divine gift of wisdom (1 Kings 3:1-12). He gave these **Proverbs** for a number of audiences, which also included his sons (Prov. 4:1-4). Therefore, a number of prayer requests for our governing authorities can be drawn from the wisdom which King Solomon passed on to his sons, the future kings of Israel.

- Be humble in heart (15:25, 33; 18:12; 25:27; 29:23)
- Surround with good friends and counselors (11:14; 12:5, 15; 13:20 17:4; 22:24-25; 29:12)
- Guard the tongue
 - Speak truth (4:24; 6:17; 11:3; 12:22; 17:7)
 - Speak with gentleness (25:15; 17:7; 15: 1-2, 23)
- Seek wisdom (28:16; 8:15-16; 29:12; 2:6-7; 4:5-8; 24:3-4; 3:13)
- Pursue righteousness (21:21; 16:12-15; 29:2; 14:34; 21:3)
- Fear God (14:2; 1:7; 5:21; 15:3, 16; 16:1-3, 5-6; 19:21; 21:1-2; 23:17; 30:8-9; 3:7-8; 9:10)

If your Senator or Representative is not a disciple of Jesus Christ, the most important thing you can do is to pray for his or her salvation. The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy: *First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.* (1 Timothy 2:1-4).

Ideas for Meetings

- Send a card to their office to introduce yourself and to state that you are praying for them (Remember: their staff person will probably open and read the card first). Make a follow-up phone call to make an appointment. NOTE: Your legislator receives so many emails, that it so easy to overlook one—cards and calls are better for an introduction.
- Have a cup of coffee in a relatively quiet place.
- Invite to have lunch or breakfast (you offer to pay).
- During legislative session, come to Jefferson City. Make an appointment before you come up. Capitol Commission is planning to have a day for pastors and partners in the capitol. This would be a great opportunity to make that visit.
- Invite to your church, or small group from church.
- Invite the legislator and spouse (if married) to join you and your spouse for dinner.
- Take part in a hobby—play golf, go fishing, etc.

All you are doing is simply making a friend; for no other purpose than to be able to minister, serve and show the love of Christ to your legislators.

Interacting with Your Legislators

Keep in mind...

- ...they are the ones that God has placed in authority in our state; whether you voted for them or not.
- ...they are people just like you.
- ...they are very busy just like you.
- ...they are constantly hounded by all types of people asking them to do something.
- ...they want to hear and visit with their constituents.
- ...you need to be very flexible.
- ...you are there to minister and serve them.

Therefore,

- If you don't really know your legislator, make an appointment through his or her Legislative Assistant at the capitol. Even if they are not in session, this is the first place to start. The phone number is listed on the information sheet included in the packet. Call first; it seems to get better results.
- Tell the Legislative Assistant that you would like to make an appointment with the Representative or Senator back in the district. Feel free to inform them that you are working with Paul Meinsen and Capitol Commission.
- It may take some time or you may need to make an appointment a week or two in advance. Do not expect to call and be able to meet the next day.
- Always remember that you may be bumped. Many of the legislators have another job or may be in the midst of a campaign. This is where you need to be very flexible.
- Always show respect. The Apostle Peter wrote to "Honor the King" (1 Peter 2:17b). Your legislator is in a position of authority; and while he or she is a fellow human being like you, you still need to be respectful of the position he or she is in. Even if you disagree with every vote and position he or she has taken, God has still placed them in authority; thus, we, as children of

God, show honor and respect.

- Be careful of the questions you ask. One needs to have an understanding of their lives and work in government, but there is a fine line between getting to know them and getting "nosey." You do not want it to seem as if you are wanting the "inside scoop" on legislation or other candidates. Just exercise wisdom.
- Along these lines, do what you can to stay away from political issues. If asked your thoughts on something by your legislator, give a thorough, educated, biblically-based reply. You can cut off avenues for ministry if you go to an appointment with political "guns blazing". Your mission is different. It concerns the legislator not legislation.
- Keep the conversations confidential. You can hurt your ability to minister, and the ability of Capitol Commission to minister, if you have loose lips.

Meeting with and becoming friends with a member of the Missouri State Government is not complicated (I hope I have not made it that way). But there are some guidelines that can be quite helpful in your opportunity to serve.

These folks are constantly bombarded with others (individuals, lobbyists, businesses, fellow legislators) who want something from them. Make sure we are the ones who are saying, "What can I do for you and your family?"

**YOUR MISSION CONCERNS
THE LEGISLATOR
NOT LEGISLATION.**