

The D. James Kennedy
CENTER *for* CHRISTIAN
STATESMANSHIP





Missionaries in “Modern Rome”

Established in 1995, the D. James Kennedy Center for Christian Statesmanship is a spiritually-based outreach to men and women in positions of influence and authority in our nation's government. Our mission is to support, equip, and empower Christian statesmanship and inspire the next generation of Christian leaders to serve God and man in the halls of government.

Our founder, D. James Kennedy, had the vision to send missionaries into the “modern Rome” of our day. We do this by resourcing and equipping elected officials, their staff, and lay people eager to serve in the public square.

Strategically located on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., the D. James Kennedy Center for Christian Statesmanship serves representatives, senators, staffers, and interns through evangelism, Bible study, worldview and policy briefing, and leadership training.



"Our country was, indeed, conceived and birthed largely by Christian statesmen. Today I am afraid that it is choking and dying at the hands of mere politicians, and I think it is vital that we rekindle the flame of Christian Statesmanship in this country."

Dr. D. James Kennedy

What is a Christian Statesman?

A Christian Statesman is a man or woman whose life is governed by bedrock principles over which they will not compromise for personal or political gain.

A Christian Statesman is a person whose commitment to Christ and love of country compels them to stand for truth and righteousness in government.

A Christian Statesman recognizes that public service is a high calling – a ministry ordained by God (Romans 13:4) – and that they will one day render an account to God for that service. In short, a Christian Statesman is a person who fears God more than men.

A Christian Statesman endeavors to live out their Christian faith in public life, upholding those principles that exalt rather than debase the nation. Such persons live their lives guided by a Christian worldview, which acknowledges the sovereignty of God and compels them to make their life count for the kingdom of Christ.

We Believe the Bible Speaks to All of Life

Christians are called to engage and transform culture for the sake of His kingdom. Christ's lordship is not limited to our morning devotions and church attendance. It should influence our interactions in every sphere of culture— art, science, education, business, sports, entertainment – and even politics. As the great Dutch political leader and culture influencer Abraham Kuyper once said, "There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, 'Mine!'"

With this in mind, we must have individuals in positions of government who are guided by their faith in Jesus Christ and committed to living out His teachings in both personal and public life. In a world that is increasingly secular and hostile to the message of the gospel, it is more important than ever that we have Christian statesmen who are not afraid to stand up for the truths of the Gospel and to be a voice for righteousness in the public square. Distinguished Christian statesmen serve as shining examples of what it means to live a life of faith, integrity, and service to others. They provide a powerful witness to the gospel's transformative power.

The United States was built on a Judeo-Christian foundation, and we must continue to uphold this legacy and the values it represents. Dr. D. James Kennedy, our late Founder and mentor, once said, "the purpose of the Christian life is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever." This principle should also be true for those seeking to serve in government. A Christian statesman seeks to serve the common good and promote justice and righteousness, always guided by their faith in Jesus Christ.

In addition to the importance of having Christian statesmen leading our country today, it is vital that we preserve religious liberty in our nation. The United States' founding fathers recognized the importance of religious freedom and enshrined it as a fundamental right in the First Amendment to the Constitution. This right is important not only for Christians but for all people of faith who seek to live out their beliefs in the public square.

Just as politics seems to permeate all things, the Center for Christian Statesmanship believes the Bible speaks to all of life, including our culture and politics.



What Does the Center for Christian Statesmanship Do?

The D. James Kennedy Center for Christian Statesmanship seeks to equip a new generation of leaders for service to both God and country through a wide range of ministry activities, including:

"Politics and Principle" luncheons at which Christian Members of Congress share their faith testimony

Special intern and staffer events, such as barbecues and Bible studies, where 20 and 30 year olds gather for Christian community

Lectures and panel events where Christian thought leaders apply a biblical worldview to public policy and share their Christian witness to the Capitol Hill community

Outreach to Members of Congress through special programming for Freshmen Members, private events, and other spiritual and leadership development opportunities

Research and publishing of position papers and other resources explaining a biblical worldview on hot-button issues of the day

Grassroots leadership training in cities across the nation to inspire and develop the next generation of Christian leaders for public service; offering comprehensive leadership training to those preparing to seek elected office and to those seeking other areas of service in the public policy arena



Rob Pacienza, Senior Pastor at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church



Stephen Mansfield lectures on the faith of Abraham Lincoln

"Dr. Kennedy was loving, kind, but unapologetically Biblical."

The standard by which he approached his ministry was a standard of Biblical truth. If it came down to some cultural norm and Biblical truth, he stuck with the Scripture every single time. That was his real legacy."

Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee



"As D. James Kennedy said one time, 'What? We don't want any Christians, any God fearing people in government? Should we just leave lawmaking to the atheists?'"

Virginia Lieutenant Governor Winsome Sears



"We need to raise the Judeo-Christian vision of the calling to Christian statesmanship."

The vision of service – the nobility of it – that God is involved, that there are values and ethics that He has given us, and that there are guidelines for leadership that can transform a society. There's never been a more important moment for the Center for Christian Statesmanship."

*Stephen Mansfield,
New York Times Best Selling Author,
Ambassador for the Center for Christian Statesmanship*



Distinguished Christian Statesman Award

Each year, the Center for Christian Statesmanship celebrates a faithful Christian public servant by conferring the Distinguished Christian Statesman award. Believing that our nation's future depends largely on the character and integrity of our leaders, Dr. Kennedy and the board of directors of the Center for Christian Statesmanship established the annual award to promote faith, virtue, and excellence in public service to recognize men and women who endeavor to live out their Christian faith in public life.

The Distinguished Christian Statesman Award is an honor that represents the ideals of service to God and country.

Each year the Board of Directors prayerfully selects a recipient whose public service and private life uphold these ideals. Since the award's inception in 1996, an annual reception or dinner has been held each year to recognize the recipient.



Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos



From left to right: Jen Pacienza, Lauren Cooley, Jennifer Kennedy Cassidy, The Honorable Winsome Sears, Pastor Rob Pacienza

Past Award Recipients

Senator John Ashcroft	1996	1997	Chief Justice Roy Moore
Senator Dan Coats	1998	1999	Majority Leader Dick Armeiy
Senator Sam Brownback	2000	2001	Rep. J.C. Watts
Rep. Tom DeLay	2002	2003	The Honorable Kay Coles James
Rep. John Hostettler	2004	2005	Rep. Marilyn Musgrave
Rep. Mike McIntyre	2006	2007	Rep. Todd Akin
The Honorable Mike Pence	2008	2009	Rep. Randy Forbes
Rep. Robert B. Aderholt	2010	2011	Rep. Trent Franks
The Honorable Joseph R. Pitts	2012	2013	Governor Mike Huckabee
The Honorable John Boozman	2014	2015	Senator James Lankford
Governor Matt Bevin	2016	2017	Rep. Mark Meadows
Senator James M. Inhofe	2018	2019	Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos
Rep. Bob McEwen	2020	2021	Rep. Vicki Hartzler
Lt. Governor Winsome Earle-Sears	2022	2023	Senator Tim Scott

Leadership



ROB PACIENZA

Senior Pastor, Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, President and CEO of Coral Ridge Ministries



LAUREN COOLEY

Executive Director, Center for Christian Statesmanship



STEPHEN MANSFIELD

Author and Historian, Ambassador for the Center for Christian Statesmanship

The Next Generation

Throughout America's history, God has raised up men and women to serve as Christian Statesmen. Their moral strength and reliance on God's providential care guided our great nation during its founding era. Their dedicated service has sustained us during crises of civil war, world war, depression, poverty, and racial division. As America moves forward, it is our prayer that God will raise up a new generation of Christian Statesmen and

that through them, He will continue to secure the blessings of liberty for generations to come.

The Center for Christian Statesmanship is committed to investing in the next generation of missionaries in modern-day Rome so that decades from today, Christ's light will fill the political landscape as committed followers of Jesus take up leadership positions in Washington and elsewhere.

Build Statesmen with Courage and Character

Do you desire to see Christian Statesmen take a bold stance for the Gospel and a Christian worldview, influencing public policy in our nation's government? Together, let's raise up the next generation of Christian Statesmen to serve in the mission field of government and public policy. **Partner with us today.**

Scan QR code or visit statesman.org





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