

Lessons Learned over Twenty-Five Years of Public Service

Peter Roskam is a first-hand witness to the shift in the public debate during his twenty-five years in elected office in the United States. He has served in both the majority and the minority in each of three storied legislative bodies — the US House of Representatives, the Illinois Senate and the Illinois House of Representatives. He also served in the Congressional Leadership. He will discuss his observations as an elected official over the last twenty-five years and assess the trends that are impacting public debate today. He will share his view on how young Christian leaders can make an impact today in an environment where cultural assumptions are changing quickly.

Peter Roskam served for twenty-five years in elected office in the United States, including six terms in the US House of Representatives where he served in the Congressional Leadership. He chaired three Congressional subcommittees and was involved with a wide range of legislative action on tax policy, healthcare, IRS reform, the Iran nuclear deal, and the Benghazi investigation. He chaired the bipartisan US House Democracy Partnership, sits on the board of the National Endowment for Democracy, and was a Visiting Fellow at the University of Chicago. He and his wife Elizabeth, an accomplished oil painter, have been married for 30 years and have four adult children.

I. An answered prayer: stand firm and be still

II. Prayer with friends in the constituency

III. Prayer on Capitol Hill

IV. The politics of instant gratification

V. Substance vs. Process

VI. Looking for common ground

VII. Include your family

VIII. Hold this loosely