

Tony Perkins
President, Family Research Council
Former Chair, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

Tony Perkins currently serves as president of Family Research Council (FRC), whose mission is to serve in the kingdom of God by championing faith, family, and freedom in public policy and the culture from a biblical worldview.

Prior to joining FRC in August 2003, he served in the Louisiana Legislature, where he was a leading pro-life, pro-family voice.

During his tenure as FRC's president, Tony has expanded the organization's reach beyond Washington, DC to across the nation by building a major network of pastors and churches.

In May 2018, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell appointed Tony to the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), and in May 2020, Leader McConnell reappointed him to a second term. During his time on the independent, bipartisan commission, he served as both Chair and Vice Chair.

While on USCIRF, he participated in its most recent visit to Sudan in 2020. During that visit, he met with transitional Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok, who at that time was taking steps to improve religious freedom. Those reforms led to Sudan being removed from the U.S. list of "countries of particular concern" after twenty years.

An ordained minister, Tony remains active in Christian ministries and frequently fills pulpits across the country.

He is also the host of a daily, nationally syndicated TV and radio show, *Washington Watch with Tony Perkins* as well as a weekend broadcast, *This Week on Capitol Hill*.

In addition to being a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and a former police officer, he previously oversaw the training of hundreds of international police officers as the general manager for a Washington, D.C.-based firm contracted by the U.S. Department of State to provide training in anti-terrorism.

He and his wife Lawana have been married since 1986 and have five children and two grandchildren.