



## ***Letters to the Next President #1 :: Heaven Rules*** **{Andy Stanley}**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Everyone seems to have an answer about how to improve the country. As the political landscape grows increasingly impassioned during this election season, there is no shortage of opinions as to how the next President should lead. What if *you* were given the opportunity to be one of the President's closest advisors? What if *you* were given the opportunity to influence the perspective of the leadership of a country? An organization? A family? What would you advise?

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Who have been the greatest leaders you have experienced? What made them great leaders?
2. Who is the worst leader you've known? What caused him or her to be such poor leaders?
3. Read Daniel 4. King Nebuchadnezzar's dream was fulfilled and his power was stripped from him until he acknowledged God's sovereignty. What examples of God's sovereignty have trumped your own plans and aspirations?
4. What does God have to do with leadership? For example: Why are there great leaders who have no faith in God, while there are those who have a rich relationship with God that exhibit poor leadership?
5. King Nebuchadnezzar realized that leadership is a stewardship; it is temporary and we are accountable to God for how and who we lead. How will that reality influence the way you lead in your current leadership roles?

### **THINK ABOUT IT**

Great leaders are the ones who leverage their leadership opportunities for the sake of those they have been privileged to lead, rather than for themselves. The Bible reveals that King Nebuchadnezzar finally realized that truth, but his successors did not. History books record stories of numerous leaders who understood their leadership as a stewardship and those who sought leadership for their own gain. Is there a correlation between a leader's ability to understand this truth and the health of the country or organization that the leader represents?

### **WHAT WILL YOU DO?**

This week, identify an area where God has placed you in leadership. What steps can you take to leverage your position for the sake of those you lead?

### **CHANGING YOUR MIND**

*Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.*

-Daniel 4:37