Grace Group Leaders’ Notes: Daniel 2, *“Empires Rise, Empires Fall”*

***Remember:*** *Whatever else we take away, we always want to emphasise grace and hope.*

**1. Review (5 mins)**

***Q:*** *Look back over* ***Daniel 1****. How do we see that God is in control of all Daniel’s circumstances?*

***[Leaders:*** *Note the repeated use of the verb ‘gave’ in* ***verses 2, 9, 17****]*

***Q:*** *In what circumstances do we find it difficult to have ‘resolve’ like Daniel (****verse 8****), and ‘draw a line’?*

**2. Recap (15 minutes)**

**Summary: The God who Reveals:** God reveals that He is sovereign over earthly kingdoms - only His kingdom will endure – thank God for revealing the mystery of the gospel!

***NOTE: Aim to make at least one question “chat in 2s/3s” (perhaps by gender) to vary the format.***

***Q:*** *Read* ***Daniel 2v1-11****. What is the ‘theology’ of Nebuchadnezzar’s advisors? What is right? And wrong?*

* *See particularly* ***verses 10-11****, and then compare with* ***verse 27*** *and* ***verse 28****. See* ***John 1v14-18****.*
* *What do we learn about human power and wisdom? See also* ***verses 37-38*** *and* ***Romans 13v1****.*

***Q:*** *Read* ***Daniel 2v12-24****. What do we learn about God from Daniel’s prayer?*

***Q:*** *Read* ***Daniel 2v25-49****. What is the basic principle in this chapter? See* ***verse 28*** *and* ***verse 47****.*

* *What various ways do we see this principle worked out in the Bible and the world?*

***Q:*** *Looking at* ***Daniel 2v31-35****. What is the basic lesson of the dream itself? See also the middle of* ***verse 21****.*

***Q:*** *How do we see the predictions of* ***verses 34-35*** *and* ***verses 44-45*** *particularly fulfilled?*

* *See also* ***Matthew 21 verses 42-44****.*

**3. Application (20 minutes)**

***Q:*** *How does our society think it can discover or define truth or wisdom or meaning? Where does it look? What does it trust or believe?*

***Q:*** *What truths about God from this passage, particularly* ***verses 20-23****, do you find hardest to believe?*

***Q:*** *What truths in this passage help give us confidence…*

* *…in our faith?*
* *…in our evangelism?*
* *…when we find the culture (e.g. our workplace) opposing what we believe?*

**4. Prayer (20 minutes)**

*Share prayer requests, particularly in view of the passage, especially* ***verses 20-23****, and pray.*