The Way- Changing the hearts of leaders. Sermon Notes July 16, 2017

Pictures of Presidents Clinton, Bush, Obama, and Trump.

- What emotions did you feel?
- What words have you spoken about them?
- Have you ever prayed for their soul?

God chooses our leaders. Romans 13:1-7

- God establishes all authorities that exist. (1b)
- Rebelling against authority is rebelling against God. (2)
- A person of authority is a servant of God. (4a)
- Authority is for our good. (4a)
- "Therefore" we submit. (5)
 - Not just to avoid punishment.
 - For our peace of mind.

The gospel's impact- from commoners to kings. Acts 25:23-27

King Agrippa- The eighth and final Herodian leader. Reigning from A.D. 50-93 approximately.

Porcius Festus- Appointed by Nero to be the Roman procurator of Judea in A.D. 60-62

Winning the soul verses winning the argument. Acts 26:1-32

- Esteem the leader. (2-3)
- Make your defense the work of God in your life—your testimony. (4-23)
- Respectful disagreement. (24-25a)
- Affirm the strength of the leader. (25b-27)
- Honesty in motive. (29)

• Watch God change the heart. (30-32)

Take aways

- 1. Humanize the leader by praying for their heart to be moved to Jesus.
- 2. Our testimony of God's work in our lives is more powerfully on display when our attitude of disagreement is strikingly different from the world.
- 3. No earthly power can stop the work of God.