

Community Group Discussion Guide

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
ISAIAH

Sunday, February 13, 2022

Scripture: Isaiah 44:24-45:25

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

The Lord of Israel is the one true God who accomplishes his wise and holy purposes in the world He created – including the salvation of sinners and the demonstration of His infinite glory – by his sovereign power and authority.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

- Who are Isaiah's intended audiences in this passage? What do 44:24-28 reveal about God?
- How can we know God's plans and purposes in a world full of competing philosophies (v44:25-26)?
- Who is Cyrus, and how did God use him to fulfill His plans and purposes in the world (44:28, 45:1-7)? What notable titles does God use of Cyrus?
- What objection is God answering in 45:9-11?
- Do you trust that there's nothing outside God's control, however limited our perspective?
- How do we know that God's purposes are always righteous and good (45:13, 19)?
- What does it mean that God "hides himself" (verse 15)? Explain how 45:15 and 45:19 are not contradictory statements.
- According to 45:14, why will the nations converge on Israel? Discuss how this is a fulfillment of God's plan for his people.
- Does your heart break for those who don't know Jesus and persist in their idolatry (45:20)?
- What does it mean that God's word "shall not return" (verse 23)?
- How does this text anticipate Jesus Christ and his gospel?