

Life Group Discussion Guide

Isaiah: Yahweh Alone Is God

Week 6: Unlikely Ways, Unending Hope • Isaiah 44:24-45:25

Read Isaiah 44:24-45:25 together. Focus on recurring themes, words, and phrases. As you reflect on this passage and Pastor Jon's message, what are your initial impressions or takeaways? What stood out to you most?

A Bewildering Mission

In **Isaiah 44:24-28**, God declares his sovereignty and announces his plans involving Cyrus, a pagan king. This mission highlights God's control over history and his ability to use unlikely instruments to fulfill his purposes. This declaration was bewildering to the people of Isaiah's time, challenging their understanding of God's ways.

- What does **Isaiah 44:24-28** reveal about God's control over creation and history? How does this impact your view of current world events?
- How does God's declaration about Cyrus demonstrate his ability to use unexpected instruments for his purposes?
- How can recognizing God's sovereignty in history help us trust him more in our personal lives?
- What are some areas in your life where you need to acknowledge God's sovereignty and trust his plans, even if they seem bewildering?

A Bewildered People

Isaiah 45:1-13 describes the bewildered reaction of the people to God's plan involving Cyrus. Despite Cyrus not acknowledging God, the Lord will empower and guide him to fulfill divine purposes.

- Pastor Jon said, "God calls Cyrus his anointed, a term usually reserved for the kings of Judah in the Davidic line." What does God's choice of Cyrus tell us about his ability to work through anyone? How does this challenge our expectations of how God should act?
- How does **Isaiah 45:5-7** emphasize the uniqueness and sovereignty of God? What implications does this have for our faith?
- In what ways have you seen God work through unlikely or unexpected people or circumstances in your life?
- Last week we read **Isaiah 44:3-4**, what similarities do you see with **Isaiah 45:8**? What differences do you see? Why is it significant?

A Bewildering God

In **Isaiah 45:14-25**, God reveals Himself as the only Savior. He calls all people to turn to him for salvation, declaring his righteousness and ultimate authority. This passage calls us to recognize God's incomprehensible ways and to find hope in his unchanging character.

- How does God's declaration that he is the only Savior affect your understanding of salvation?
- What does it mean for us to turn to God and be saved, as stated in **Isaiah 45:22**?
- In what areas of your life do you need to surrender to God's bewildering yet sovereign ways?

If God is for us, who can be against us?

Overall, **Isaiah 44:24-45:25** demonstrates God's sovereign control over everything, highlights his commitment to his purposes, and promises salvation for his people.

- How does the knowledge that God is for us change how we face opposition or challenges in our lives? How does it help us face the feeling of being in exile?
- How can the certainty of God's purposes prevailing give you courage to take steps of faith, even when the outcome is uncertain?

