

### Community Prayer

1. Every SG will be full of life to empower communities to grow daily.
2. For those who are sick in our communities
3. For smooth progress on the construction of the education building in God's grace to its completion
4. For the next generation and Chodae children and youth ministries (Education Department) to grow in faith
5. For missionary work of Chodae Community Church
6. For Adult education programs such as Disciple Class, One-to-One Training, and Workplace Ministry to progress smoothly in God's grace

### April Church Schedule

March 26-31	Special early morning prayer service for Passion Week
March 30 [Fri]	Good Friday
April 1 [Sun]	Easter Sunday
April 8 [Sun]	권찰 Retreat
April 29 [Sun]	SG Leaders Meeting

## Putting God First

하나님 우선의 삶

### Works Under God's Sovereignty

Isaiah 45:1-13

### Announcements

1. 2018 church theme is "Putting God First."
2. Please use the following order for your SG service.  
2~3 praise songs / Representative Prayer / Opening Mind / Scripture Reading / SG Sharing
3. Schedule for Community Bible Recitation & Praise:  
4/6- Community 22, 4/13- Community 23, 4/20- Community 24(향유), 4/27- Community 26, 5/4- Community 25(옥합)
4. Church-wide home visitation is now in progress. Please pray for it.
5. 2018 권찰 retreat will be on Sunday, April 8, from 2:30pm to 4:30pm.
6. Training for Family SG Services starts before regular SG training (The last Sunday of the month at 2:30pm, PJM room on the 2nd floor)
7. Make sure to submit SG meeting reports online after each meeting.
8. Diaspora Ministry: Please notify your community designated pastor in advance if there are SG members who are leaving church due to move to other location.

## Works Under God's Sovereignty [Isaiah 45:1-13]

### Praise to the Lord

- 주 하나님 지으신 모든 세계 (새찬송가 79)
- 내가 만민 중에 (경배와 찬양 82)

**Focus I** God is the Creator and has sovereignty throughout the history. And He fulfills his will perfectly at the time of his choosing.

**Opening Your Mind** Let's open up our minds by sharing our lives in the past weeks as well as QT and things to be grateful for.

**Opening the Words** Let's read Isaiah 45:1-13 together.

### Understanding Background

Isaiah the prophet proclaims God's plan for Israel's salvation. After experiencing the amazing salvation from God, Israel will become a witness to proclaim that God is the only true God who cannot be compared to anything else. God, the Creator, who has sole sovereignty over history of mankind, will appoint one person to save Israel. Specifically, God says Israel will be saved through Cyrus, king of Persia, and fulfills it as written in the history. Salvation of Israel through a Gentile is an irrefutable event of the Lord's sovereignty. Restoration and salvation of Israel serve as an eventual lead in to salvation of mankind.

### > Study

**1-1. Observation & Reflection** | What was God's reason for appointing Cyrus, king of Persia, and what did God say to him? (v 1-4)

**1-2. Application & Sharing** | What are things where we need to recognize and obey God's sovereignty? Can you share a time when God fulfilled his will through a non-believer?

**2-1. Observation & Reflection** | How did God answer to those who were suspicious or who complained about sovereign God's salvation? (V 9-13)

**2-2. Application & Sharing** | Did you ever complain to God, who controls the world, about his methods? Were there times when you realized your will differed from God's will?

### > Key Points

God is the Creator and sovereign Lord throughout the history of mankind. God appointed and anointed Cyrus, a Gentile. It's not by random chance that, historically, Cyrus becomes powerful and wealthy and ascends to the throne of Persia. But it occurs within the sovereign rule of God. It is associated with God's redemption, and God rescues his people and leads them to the way of love and righteousness. God is potter and we are clay. God's thoughts and ours are as different as heaven and earth, and God's thoughts and plans are always higher and bigger. In all matters, it is our duty to acknowledge that God is the main sovereign of creation, and that we trust and obey Him.

**Prayer through the Word** | We want to trust only our God who created all things in the world and has sovereignty throughout history. When we suffer from things that we don't understand, please help us not to spew out complaints and grievances, and avoid becoming boastful. And please allow us to obey the will of God who is absolutely right at all times.

**To Keep in the heart** | I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the Lord, who does all these things. [Isaiah 45:7, ESV]