

Small Group Resource Based on the Sermon by Savanna March 23, 2025

‘The Glory of the Invisible God’

Purpose:

This guide is designed to help small groups engage with Savanna’s sermon, reflect on the story of Esther, and explore how God’s providence is at work even when He seems absent.

Discussion Outline:

Opening (10 minutes)

- **Icebreaker:** Share about a time when something that seemed like a coincidence ended up being important in your life.
 - **Opening Prayer:** Ask for God’s presence and guidance during the discussion.
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Scripture Reading (10 minutes)

Read Esther 6:1-12 aloud. Reflect on the passage’s central role in the story of Esther and how this “coincidence” changes the entire narrative.

Key Sermon Points to Discuss (30 minutes)

1. God’s Hidden Presence

- Savanna noted that God is never mentioned in the Book of Esther.
- *Discussion Questions:*
 - Why do you think God chose to remain “hidden” in this story?

- Have you ever felt like God was absent in your life? How did that experience impact your faith?

2. Moral Ambiguity and God's Providence

- Esther and Mordecai's actions weren't always in line with God's laws, yet God still used them.
- *Discussion Questions:*
 - What does this teach us about God's ability to work through imperfect people?
 - How do we navigate living faithfully in a world that often feels morally gray?

3. Our Responsibility to Act

- Savanna emphasized that God's providence doesn't negate our responsibility to act courageously.
- *Discussion Questions:*
 - What situations in your life might be calling for bold, faithful action?
 - How can we discern when God is prompting us to act?

Personal Reflection and Application (15 minutes)

1. What "coincidences" in your life might actually be God at work?
 2. Where do you need to trust God's timing and providence more deeply?
 3. How can you be courageous in your faith this week, even in uncertain or morally ambiguous situations?
- **Group Sharing:** Encourage group members to share any reflections they feel led to discuss.

Prayer Time (10 minutes)

- Pray for trust in God's providence and courage to act faithfully.
- Invite group members to share any prayer requests.

Closing Thought:

Savanna reminded us that "in the kingdom of God, there are no coincidences." This week, look for the ways God might be working in your life—even in the unexpected or hidden moments.

Optional Resources:

- Watch the Bible Project video on Esther for more background on the book's chiasmic structure (as mentioned in the sermon).
- Reflect on Romans 5:8, which Savanna cited to remind us of God's unwavering love for us even when we fall short.