

February 8,9

“It Just So Happens”

Esther 1–2

Message by Steve Fowler

Worship led by Noah Reed

Music:

The Lion And The Lamb	Forever Reign	God You're So Good
O Come To The Altar	Here's My Heart	

Sermon:

Truly you are a God who hides himself, the God and Savior of Israel.

Isaiah 45:15

Xerxes calls for a banquet

Xerxes gets drunk

Vashti is summoned to be paraded

Vashti refuses and is deposed

Esther is brought to the harem

Esther is made Queen

Mordecai is promoted to palace official

Mordecai discovers an assassination plot to kill Xerxes

The world is obsessed with appearances.

And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?

Matthew 16:26

Begin making a list of the “coincidences” of your life.

I bless you with a “Holy Spirit empowered resolve” to walk by faith and not by sight. Despite the temporary successes of those who enjoy living life without God may you find joy with God in this life and the life to come as you wait for Jesus to return. What good is it to gain the whole world and forfeit your soul?

I bless you with increased spiritual perception. May Jesus open your eyes. May you see and connect the dots of His present activity in your life and be so surprised that you respond like the two on the road to Emmaus saying, "Didn't our hearts burn within us?"