

**“The Silence of God Is Not the Absence of God”**  
**Small Group Bible Study**  
**October 14, 2007**

**Read:** Esther 2

**Reflect:** It’s been said that “coincidences are God’s way of staying anonymous.” What coincidences have you seen in your life in which, as you look back upon them, you see God at work? Are there any areas in your life right now where God seems anonymous... perhaps even silent?

**Dig:** In what ways did Esther become assimilated to the culture around her? Compare her actions with those of Daniel when he was in a similar situation (Daniel 1:3-8). Yet how did God steadfastly work in various ‘coincidences’ to unfold his plan and transform Esther? (See Esther 3:1-2, 5-6,13; 4:1, 5-8, 12-16; 5:3; 6:10; 7:3-6,9-10; 8:1-8,11.)

**Apply:** Psalm 33:11 says “*But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations*” Use this Psalm to guide you in praying for the various areas of your life where God seems silent and you are longing to see His plans and purposes unfold.