

[00:00:00] <music>

Annie: Hi friends! Welcome to another episode of That Sounds Fun. I'm your host Annie F. Downs, and I'm so happy to be here with you today.

Before we dive into today's conversation, though, I want to tell you about one of my favorite of our incredible sponsors, [AG1](#). It's important to me that the supplements I take are the highest quality, and that's why for so many years I've been drinking AG1.

Unlike many supplement brands, I know I can trust what is in every scoop of AG1 because they obsess over their practices, and their ingredients are heavily researched. Quality really is their commitment, at each step of the process, they really go above and beyond industry standards.

AG1 is such an easy way for me to make sure I'm covering my nutritional basis. Taking care of my health shouldn't be complicated. I do not have time for that. AG1 simplifies everything because I don't have to keep track of a million different pills and capsules. Instead, it's just one scoop of AG1 mixed in water every day. And y'all know I like to add a little frozen lemon juice to mine.

So if you want to replace your multivitamin and more, start with AG1. Try AG1 and you'll get a free one-year supply of vitamin D3 plus K2 and five free AG1 travel packs with your first subscription at DrinkAG1.com/soundsfun. That's DrinkAG1.com/soundsfun. Check it out.

Also, that link, every other link you could ever want are in the show notes below. Whether you're listening on a podcast or watching on YouTube, all those links are in the show notes below. We also send them out every Friday in the AFD Week in Review email. That is a really fun email to get with a few bullet points from our week. We include all these codes so you can go back and get the product that you want with the discount that we have. So if you aren't getting that email, you can also sign up for that in the show notes below.

Intro: Today on the show, I get to talk with my friend Pastor Matt Chandler. Okay, y'all know we got to do a deep dive on the Gospels and the Book of Acts every Monday in April. Today we've got one more conversation to close out that series for now, because y'all have never requested a thing like you've requested for us to do more of these.

So today we're going to talk about the book of Revelation. I know. I know. It's not one of the Gospels. It's not the easiest book in the world. But Matt has been

teaching on it. He has a brand new book coming out tomorrow called *The Overcomers* that is an overview of Revelation.

So when we were prepping for this conversation, I just knew we had to wrap up our series on books of the Bible with this one. I mean, it's Revelation, the last book of the Bible, so of course it makes sense.

I feel like Revelation is this overwhelming and pretty intimidating book at times, but Matt really talks about how it's actually this message of encouragement and hope and motivation. Y'all are going to love his new book and this episode. So get your Bibles, open with me. Here's my conversation with my friend Pastor Matt Chandler.

[00:02:53] <music>

Annie: Matt Chandler, welcome back to That Sounds Fun.

Matt: Am I back? Have we done this before?

Annie: In live. You and me and Lauren in Dallas.

Matt: Oh, forgive me, Sis. I just thought, like, I'm on video with you.

Annie: It's okay. You're right. You're right. This one's different.

Matt: That was awesome.

Annie: But you debuted in the right way.

Matt: Yes, I did. That was a good night.

Annie: In my bucket of live podcasts that I've gotten to do, that is like a top three. That was so fun.

Matt: Here's a little fun fact. I think it's the only live podcast I've ever done in my life.

Annie: Really?

Matt: And I might dadgummit, just make it a hard fast rule. I'm sorry. When you've been to the top of Everest, you don't worry about the foothills. Okay, I can't do it.

Annie: You don't take the answers of the others.

- Matt:** That's right.
- Annie:** You don't answer the calls of the other mountains.
- Matt:** That's right. No, you don't. You don't mess with the foothills when you've been to Everest.
- Annie:** Well, that's kind of you. We'll see. We'll see. Okay, so because it's our 10th year of That Sounds Fun-
- Matt:** Come on.
- Annie:** ...we are starting with the fun questions. So what are the Chandlers doing for fun right now? What sounds fun to you?
- Matt:** Well, we're all doing different things for fun. I think we've got some few things that are all of us being fun. But for me, I started... I don't know how this will land. I started training jujitsu about two and a half years ago now and I am having a blast. And it doesn't make any sense because I'm just getting whipped by 20-year-old men over and over.
- Annie:** Does it hurt?
- Matt:** Yes, very much so.
- Annie:** I would think so.
- Matt:** But there's some kind of brokenness back to, I'm sure, childhood trauma. As little Matt... really loving this. It must be what little Matt wasn't allowed to do. So he's like, no, you can fight these guys. And little Matt's like, Woo. So yeah, that's for me.
- Annie:** Now, is your son Reed still doing it as well?
- Matt:** See, and that's where it's weird. He actually is not doing it anymore, but I continued on. I continued on.
- Annie:** We were doing this thing together.
- Matt:** That's why I got into it, because it was time with Reed, and then he had too much going on with school and whatever. Bless his heart. You remember high school and you're just like, I can't wait to get out. And then you're in college, can't wait to get out.

Then I remember writing a 40-page paper in a theology class, and I was like, "I cannot wait to not have to do this anymore." And now I'm doing that every week, and a lot more people are grading me.

Annie: That's it.

Matt: Back then it was just one guy grading me, and now it's like a lot of people letting me know how well or not well I did.

Annie: I was like, college was so hard. I had a class at 10 and a class at 3. What was I talking about?

Matt: You got a nap between them too, that's the wild thing. I got to sleep a little bit between those.

Annie: I know. It was ridiculous. Okay, let me tell you this really fun thing that's ended up happening. We didn't even plan this precisely, but we just finished five Mondays in a row studying a book of the Bible as our Monday show. And here we are, we've done five books of the New Testament, so let's just round this out and make it number six.

Matt: Okay, I'm in. I'm game.

Annie: I would love for us to deep dive on the book of Revelation.

Matt: Oh, it's a scary one. It shouldn't be.

Annie: Yeah, it is.

Matt: It shouldn't be scary. It wasn't given to them.

Annie: It is so scary. Will you talk about that for a minute? That is literally one of my questions. Why are we so afraid? Why am I so afraid?

Matt: Well, I love this book. I mean, I love it. It has been given to the church for 2,000 years to encourage her, not to make her nervous or afraid. It's actually been given to the people of God to put steel in their spines. Then about 150 years ago, it got hijacked, I would argue it got hijacked, but kind of a new way of interpretation where you instead of seeing revelation for what it was meant to be, and it tells us in the first five verses exactly what it is and what it's not, that now what ends up happening is people take the newspaper and try to understand Revelation instead of letting Revelation help them understand the newspaper.

Annie: Wow,

Matt: And this is why. Gosh, it just happened. I mean, I know we're in May now, but if you remember the eclipse? I mean, I got two calls with people going, Hey, do you want to hop on this station and talk about the eclipse? And I was like, What would I say about it? It happens all over the world quite frequently. But because this one was in America, it was the end of the world.

Annie: It was the end of the world. That's right.

Matt: Then every time a war kicks up, every time there's an earthquake, every time they're like, Oh, this is it. And it's made us look like fools. Revelation wasn't given for that reason. Most scholars think it was written around 96 AD.

Annie: Yeah, I read that in your book, *The Overcomers*. That means John was super old.

Matt: Oh, old, old, old. In fact, church history would tell us that he was actually exiled because they tried to boil him alive, and he didn't die. And so that freaked them out, and they just put him on Patmos.

Annie: They were like, there's an island for people like you-

Matt: Yes, since we can't seem to kill you.

Annie: ...who survive being boiled, yeah.

Matt: We're just going to put you there.

Annie: Wow.

Matt: And so in 96 AD, the church had endured 30 years of horrific persecution. I know there are people today that are like, Christians are being persecuted. No, we're not. We're a nuisance.

Annie: You said our preferences are being stepped on, is what you said in the book. I wrote that quote down. We aren't being persecuted; our preferences are being stepped on.

Matt: That's right. You want to know persecution, you get on a plane. It's happening, but it ain't here yet. Now, I think you can see that shadowy figure on the horizon. But for today, for May of 2024, we're just a nuisance to the predominant culture. Like we're in their way or at least that's how they perceive it.

So you've got 30 years of horrific Roman oppression. In fact, just 20 years before this, you had probably the worst year in early Christian history. You had Jerusalem fall. You had Paul, Peter, and Timothy all killed. I mean, can you imagine what it would be like?

Annie: In the same year, Matt?

Matt: All in the same year.

Annie: I did not know that.

Matt: You know, the giants of our day were all drug out in the street and killed.

Annie: And killed by the government.

Matt: That's right. And then some of our biggest and brightest lights church-wise were all burned to the ground. And this is-

Annie: Timothy and Paul killed by the government in the same year.

Matt: Yeah, absolutely. It's government execution.

Annie: I did not know that.

Matt: So here we come along to 96... I mean, how shell-shocked must have the church been? How tempting-

Annie: I mean, the grief John must have felt.

Matt: Ah, overwhelming. And then just the sense of this is never going to end and the pull to just sell out. I mean, when guys write books or talk about the seven churches and they dog them, I'm just like, here's the thing, man. We should have a lot of grace for what it's like to live in that when we never have. I mean, the whole economic system is built around selling out.

This is why the letters to the churches all have, "You're doing this well, you got to work on this," and then the little prompt "to he who overcomes, I will give". And each one of those giving is actually contextual and local, but it has references to local things.

But in the first chapter of the book of Revelations, here's what we learn. Revelation, singular. It's one revelation. That he says to the seven churches of Asia Minor. So we know that right out of the gate, it's a letter. It was written to a specific group of

people at a specific time and a specific place. So I'm telling everybody, it was written for us, but it wasn't written to us. That's like how to read the Bible 101. Like when you're reading Galatians, you know that this was written to them, but it's written for me. And that puts the right lenses on your eyes.

So if that's rule number one, Well, then that means the Apache helicopter isn't the locust that we read about in the Bowls of Wrath, because they would have no concept of that. So the jankiness that started 150 years ago is that Revelation is just a book for that last generation before Jesus shows up. Well, that's strange, since God gave it to the church for 2,000 years. So it is a letter to a specific group of people at a specific time in a specific place.

He goes on to say it's also a prophecy. Now, when we think prophecy, a lot of us think future telling. Now, there's certainly some of that happening in Revelation. But by and large, what Revelation means is what he means in Isaiah, which is, thus saith the Lord. So more than there's future telling in Revelation, there's thus saith the Lord.

Well, there's over 500 allusions to the Old Testament in the book of Revelation. And Eugene Peterson said there's nothing in Revelation that hasn't already been said somewhere in the scriptures. And so it's a prophecy.

And here's why people can wig out. It's an apocalypse. And apocalypse, in the Greek, it just means unveiling. It just means a pulling back of the veil so we can see reality. That according to the Bible, not just in Revelation, but in a lot of different places, what you and I see is not ultimate reality. Ultimate reality stands behind and underneath and all around what we can see, smell, touch, taste, and experience. It is Christ enthroned, which is really the point of the book.

Then apocalypse. Here's why I love apocalypse and why it's hard for Westerners. Apocalypse and the image of apocalyptic literature is meant to make us feel something, not just know something. Is Satan a dragon? No. But if you think about a dragon and all the details that we read about in Revelation 12 and 13, the beasts, you're like, Oh, this thing is awful. This thing is grotesque. This thing is horrific. Yeah, that's Satan. But he's not saying he's actually a dragon. You know, like when you finally see him bow before Jesus, it's going to be a dragon. No, he's trying to get us to feel something in our guts.

So the images of Revelation are meant not to read the newspaper and then find where this could be it, but instead meant to get us a greater sense, like in our guts, a feeling of how awful this is or how beautiful this is. That's what Revelation is.

Then there's this one line where he says, "And the one who does these things," right? It's a book of discipleship. He's saying, you've got to do what you're seeing in Revelation. I wanted to redeem the book because I think it's perfect for this moment in history.

Annie: I mean, that's one of my questions for you, Matt, because when I read your book, *The Overcomers*, when I have read Revelation, when you listen to people and you hear people going, don't do this or that, because that's the mark of the beast, right?

Matt: Sure.

Annie: ...which we're going to talk about in a minute. But everything that happens in Revelation does feel very real. I mean, even the Gospels where Jesus says there will be wars and rumors of wars, there will be earthquakes, and you just go like, That is happening. So has every generation felt this or are we uniquely feeling this?

Matt: No, I think every generation feels this. In fact, here's a little fun. Like, if you get into the four horsemen of the apocalypse and then the natural disasters-

Annie: That chapter is unbelievable by the way.

Matt: ...it mirrors Matthew 24. They almost lay on top of each other. So, Jesus is saying, this is what's going to happen and John is Jesus saying, this is going to happen. And yet all of those things had been happening and have continued to happen since Matthew 24 and Revelation were written. Every generation is going to experience the four horsemen of the apocalypse.

What's interesting about the four horsemen is that's how the church is going to experience this space between this already-but-not-yet, this space between the ascension of Christ and His ultimate return. And so every generation at some level is experiencing what Jesus wrote about in Matthew 24 and what Jesus told John about in Revelation, because this is the way we're going to experience the church age, the age between His ascension and His second coming.

Annie: I'm sure a theologian has thought through this already and you may be the one, but when Jesus says this generation won't pass away before, I'm always like, are we measuring generations different than Jesus does?

Matt: There is some scholarship because this actually hung up C.S. Lewis. Like this was a problem for C.S. Lewis.

Annie: That's me and C.S. Lewis, dude. You get it.

Matt: Come on. And I always think of you two together. I always think of you two at the same time.

Annie: You're like, if there are two peas in a pod, it's Annie and what was it? What do people call him? Not Tom. That's N.T. Wright.

Matt: No, that's right. I don't even think many people call N.T. Wright Tom. You've got to get permission to call Dr. Wright Tom.

Annie: I know.

Matt: So I wouldn't do it. Even when he gave me permission, I was like, "Okay, Bishop, thank you. Thank you, Bishop."

Annie: Okay, so that threw off C.S. Lewis, too.

Matt: I mean, literally. And I think he got it wrong. I think maybe if he'd have lived a little bit longer, he would have got there. He was moving more and more conservative. But he thought he missed it. He thought, that's a miss.

But there are some historical findings that at the fall of Jerusalem in 70 AD, some Christians saw that Jesus said that and actually fled the fall of Jerusalem, and that Jesus was referencing the fall of Jerusalem there, if you look at the text. There's some historic documentation that people fled Jerusalem around 70 AD, knowing it was going to happen. And that's what Jesus was talking about there at Jerusalem falling, not His second return.

Annie: Listen, let me tell you one of my favorite things about being a person is we are never going to stop learning on this side or on that side. Someone said to me just the other day, we know we'll get to learn forever because God's the only one who will be all-knowing forever. And I'm like, that's the best news I've ever heard about eternity.

Matt: Oh, absolutely. It's Ephesians, right? The coming ages, it's just going to keep expanding. It's going to be amazing.

Annie: We get to keep it. So things like that, I just love getting to keep learning.

Matt: And we might get up there and He'll be like, You missed that one Chandler, here's what I was talking about. And I'm like, great.

Annie: The list the Lord has got for me and the stuff I missed, we're not even ready. He's like, save her for a few thousand years and then I got to meet with Annie.

[00:17:21] <music>

Sponsor: Hey friends, just interrupting this conversation one more time to tell you about one of our incredible partners, [Thrive Causemetics](#). I know that you know Thrive Causemetics. It is the makeup in the turquoise tubes that you see all over the internet. You've heard me talk the most about their mascara because I truly love it and use it every actual day.

But Thrive Causemetics has a full line of makeup for everyday. Their whole line has clean, skin-loving ingredients and foolproof products that make it easy for any skill level to apply. One of the incredible parts of Thrive Causemetics is that for every product purchased, they donate products and funds to help communities thrive. I love that.

Okay, now let's talk about their Infinity Waterproof Eyebrow Liner for a second. Y'all, it is a super easy-to-use waterproof pencil that holds like wax and blends like a powder. You're gonna love it. You just line your brows to give them a little structure and you can create these natural-looking strokes of hair to fill in sparse brows, like on my left eyebrow. It comes with a spoolie brush to lift and tame brows after applying the pencil. There are eight shades to choose from that adjust to your natural brow hair color for the perfect match every time.

Thrive Causemetics is certified 100% vegan and cruelty-free. They have thousands of five-star reviews, including mine, so it's really no wonder you see their makeup trending everywhere. But have you given it a try? Refresh your everyday look with Thrive Causemetics, luxury beauty that gives back.

Right now, you can get an exclusive 10% off your first order at thrivecausemetics.com/tsf. That's thrivecausemetics.com/tsf, like That Sounds Fun, and you'll get 10% off your first order.

Sponsor: Okay, picture the thing that you've always wanted to learn. Maybe it's how to play chess or creative writing or gardening. Now picture learning that thing from the person who's literally the best at it in the world. That is what you get with [Masterclass](#).

Masterclass is such an easy way to help you learn more about something you're interested in. You can seriously find classes on everything from turning your passion into achievements with cultural icon Martha Stewart to principles of improv from Amy Poehler. Are you kidding me? Y'all, I did a cooking class with Gordon Ramsay and it was so much fun. With Masterclass, you can learn from the best and become your best.

Masterclass is the only streaming platform where you can learn and grow with over 200 plus of the world's best. For just \$10 a month, an annual membership gets you unlimited access to every instructor. And you can access Masterclass on your phone, computer, smart TV, or even in audio mode.

Plus, every new membership comes with a 30-day money-back guarantee. Don't waste another minute to start your learning journey with Masterclass. Right now, our friends get an additional 15% off of any annual membership at [masterclass.com/soundsfun](https://www.masterclass.com/soundsfun). That's 15% off at [masterclass.com/soundsfun](https://www.masterclass.com/soundsfun).
[Masterclass.com/soundsfun](https://www.masterclass.com/soundsfun).

Sponsor: Shout out to [Claritin](https://www.claritin.com) for supporting this episode and providing us with some samples. So if you have read *That Sounds Fun*, you probably remember the story of me trying to get a dog and then realizing I was allergic. Sad day. This is why I'm glad I found Claritin D because an allergy attack is literally the worst. So I am thankful to have it on hand around my friends, pets, and other things.

Luckily for those of us who live with the symptoms of allergies, we can live Claritin-clear with Claritin D. It's designed for serious allergy sufferers. Claritin D has two powerful ingredients in just one pill. This double-action combination of prescription-strength allergy medicine and the best decongestant available relieves sneezing, a runny nose, itchy and watery eyes, and itchy nose and throat, and sinus congestion and pressure with ease. Amen to that.

There are also a lot of seasonal allergy sufferers over here at AFD Inc. and at the That Sounds Fun Network. So Claritin D really works for this crew.

Ready to live life as if you don't have allergies? It is time to live Claritin-clear. Fast and powerful relief is just a quick trip away. So you can find Claritin D at your pharmacy counter. Just ask a pharmacist for Claritin D at the pharmacy counter. And you don't even need a prescription. Just go to [Claritin.com](https://www.claritin.com) right now and you can get a discount so you can live Claritin-clear. Use as directed.

Okay, now back to our conversation with Pastor Matt.

[00:21:41] <music>

Annie: Okay, back me up a little bit, because, and you know this, I told you when it was happening, I listened to your teaching series through Revelation in 2021, 22?

Matt: Yeah, it was 21.

Annie: Tell me, what made you even... back me up way before the book was in your heart, I figure. What made you go, I need to teach revelation to Village Church now, and therefore to the podcast listeners, and therefore to all of us? Why was that the right time to even dive into this?

Matt: Well, there was a different angst in my soul at the time. And the angst in my soul for the church I was pastoring is we had come out of COVID, and it felt to me that people didn't fully come back. Some of the dynamic, everyday, neighborhood-level, faithful Christian let's go get this, seemed to have waned. It was like we got stuck on our couch or we forgot how to do it.

And man, the thing that's always burning in my heart, always, I mean, just like it's a fire, I don't need any more wood or gas on, is that this is our moment in history. That however janky it might look out there, it's ours, and that's God's plan. Like, nobody's coming to bail us out of this tense moment we're in.

Like, C.S. Lewis, he had his day. I don't even know how well he would do in this moment. He wasn't a man of this age. G.K. Chesterton didn't about show up and critique the political environment. This is our day. The Bible argues, like, we were made for this. Like, we breathe this air. We know this language. We understand this moment we're in at some level, even though it can be disorienting.

According to the Bible, you've been, whoever's listening to this, you have been uniquely wired by God. You. Your form, your unseen substance, your personality, your backstory, your trauma from childhood, you were made for this moment. Then Acts 17 says you were placed here, like, the times and boundaries of your habitation. 2 Corinthians, you're uniquely gifted. You've been empowered and sealed by... you're gifted for this moment.

So what burns in my bones is for the church to embrace this move towards this moment, not shrink back from it. And so I was seeing two things. I was seeing acquiescence to the culture. I was seeing just going, okay, you guys are right, which you can't do. And then I was seeing a lot more just silence. We don't want to be canceled. We don't want to prove their point. We don't want to be called hateful. We don't want to be considered bigots. We don't want to be.

And so it was like this withdrawal. And I'm like, oh my gosh, we can't withdraw. We have the words of life. We can't withdraw. We have the love of God. We can't withdraw. We've got the good news. I mean, it's good news to all. We've got to go, too. All that was stern.

I was out at our river cabin just walking with the Lord and praying and I just so happened, I just so happened to be in Revelation at that time of the year in my

Bible reading. And then I'm in it, and I started seeing things I hadn't seen before. And then I was like, I got to take a deep dive on that.

It was actually scheduled, I think, to preach Romans. Then I came back to my team, I was like, "Listen, hard shift. I want to do Revelation." They're like, "You want to do what?"

Annie: You thought we were going slice level three, we were going slice level nine.

Matt: I was like, "I want to do Revelation." So put together a team and we started studying and then there came the series. I think by week three I knew I was in something with how it was resonating with our congregation, how they're waking back up, how they were leaning back in to prayer walking their neighborhoods, just praying blessings over homes, how they got back in the game.

Matt: Then, like, I don't think I've ever preached anything that has gone as... I mean, I think it's like three or four million listens now.

Annie: I was gonna say, there has to be so many people like me who's shot you a text or a DM or whatever.

Matt: I was actually working on a different book when Jennie Allen, who has a wonderful plan for my life, called me and was like, "You're not doing that book. You're not doing that book. You're doing Revelation." So I was like, "You know what? That's not a bad idea." And then here we are three years later with *The Overcomers*.

Annie: Wow, Matt. You know me, I'm a local church girl too.

Matt: Absolutely.

Annie: I think when we make things to serve the church we serve every day, God can do so much more with it versus times where I — I'll say me — times where I have thought, I want to give something to Cross Point, but I hope it goes everywhere.

Matt: Sure.

Annie: That stuff never pans out. What pans out is when I serve the people that are sitting right in front of me and then allow God to open up whatever other doors there are.

Matt: That's it.

Annie: I think that's beautiful. Oh, and this book, dude, I just cannot wait for people to read it. It helped me so much.

Matt: Oh, thank you.

Annie: It helped me so much just to have an understanding of Revelation better and more of understanding my role in my day. I think that is super important. One of the things you say in the book is that we love Jesus by faith, like just by belief, but also by experience, by experiencing.

Matt: Absolutely.

Annie: Why does that matter so much right now? Why can't it just be by faith? Or why can't it just be like, I love Jesus, look at my experiences of Him? Why does it have to be both right now?

Matt: Well, I think it's always had to have been both. And even those who would argue experience doesn't matter, I mean, I think I can ask three questions and we'll be landing on, oh, no, it does. Like almost every conversion story I know, the story is one of experience leading to faith. I mean, the opening up of our heart to belief is an experience. It's not an intellectual decision. It's the Holy Spirit doing the work of illumination.

I mean, like people who get saved a little bit... like Sweet Lauren, my wife, she's just one of the best people I know. She was seven when she became a Christian. So it wasn't like for her all the circuits were blown and she was a brand new person the next day. But she can point to a moment when she was 17 that the Holy Spirit broke through in a way that she would look at and go, "Everything about my life changed."

So people who were like me, who just wilding out, and the Lord came after them, like, I woke up the next day and my affections had changed, my zeal had changed.

Annie: How old were you? Will you remind us?

Matt: It was three days before my 18th birthday. Somebody had been sharing the gospel with me and welcoming me for about a year before then. And I'm telling you, I was a completely different person. Now, that's experiential. I mean, all of a sudden, I wanted to stop doing kind of my three besetting sins. That's all I understood at the time: I need to quit doing these three things.

Then over the years, the Lord has just gone deeper and deeper and deeper and deeper into my soul to heal, to break, to repair. But all of that is experiential. What holds me in those experiences is faith that even when I'm not feeling anything, he's working. That's the thing that holds us. Because we don't live by our emotions. We

don't live by our feelings. But the Bible is filled with people acknowledging that they're there.

Gosh, even the Apostle Paul prays for the Ephesians. "I want you to know this in your inner man. He's like, I want you to know this in your guts." It's like it surpasses knowledge. I'm not asking you, do you believe in Jesus? I'm asking like in your guts, are you clinging to this? Well, he's talking about experience.

And then guys like Blaise Pascal and Jonathan Edwards, you know, James, he's like a mathematician. Dude loved him some Excel. I hate Excel. And this is a guy who had so profoundly encountered King Jesus that he wrote about just having this moment where he was overcome, and he wrote out the experience, and he sewed it into his jacket so it was over his heart so that he would always remember that profound experience. Now, did he live out of that experience for the rest of his life? Probably not. He lived out of faith for the rest of his life.

So to ask people to pick between one of these two, it's unbiblical. They're both there. They're both all over the text. Go back and tell King David. Tell him, read through the Psalms of ascent and descent and tell me emotion and experience don't matter.

Annie: I mean, that leads me to one of the things I thought was so interesting about... I've always found interesting about the book of Revelation, is in it, in the letters specifically to the churches, one of them is a warning against being lukewarm. With part one, you're giving me some compassion for that church that I haven't had before because of what they suffered through.

But can you talk to me, how do we even in our own selves... What's the quiz we take mentally? Am I lukewarm or am I just not feeling the feelings right now and I'm just leaning on my faith versus my experience?

Matt: Well, one, I would say lean on your faith and acknowledge your feelings. This is why I love King David. He almost comes across as almost schizophrenic. You're on one page, and he's talking about deep intimacy, and then the next, he's like, how long, O Lord, will you forsake me? Will you forsake me forever?

I think it's there for us. I think a psalm like Psalm 13 is so helpful here. where you're seeing both, right? He's like, "How long, O Lord? Have you forgotten me? Do you see me? Are you going to let my enemies kill me?" I mean, that's all emotion. And he hadn't put it in the trunk. He hadn't shoved it into his heart. He's come directly to the Lord.

Or how about this one, where he's like... it's funny to me, like, some of the Psalms we put on coffee cups, you know, like, as the deer pants for water, and there's like a deer, and it's like misty field. That is a painful Psalm. Like, as the deer pants for water, so my soul longs for you. Like, where are you? When will you come back here? When can I be with you?

But in all of those Psalms, there's a turn. If we just keep the one I mentioned, in Psalm 13, you've got all these, where are you? How long? Are you going to let your enemies kill me? And then, boom, "but I will trust in your steadfast love. I'll trust in it. I'm going to cling to it in this moment where I feel nothing but abandoned by you. I know you have not abandoned me." What David does so well that teaches us is he preaches to his feelings.

So I have a friend, Bryan Loritts, a good friend of mine. Here's the way he says it. You don't put your emotions in the trunk and you don't let them drive. They belong in a car seat in the back seat.

Annie: That's so good. They belong in the car seat.

Matt: You put them in that... It's like little 8-year-old Matt's throwing a tantrum, and he's going to bring that to the Lord. Well, you don't. Yeah, you just put them in the car seat. You buckle them in. You make sure they're okay. You don't put them in the trunk, and you certainly don't let them drive. We live a life of faith, just period. We live a life of faith.

And there's nothing wrong with wanting God to minister to you in a way that's experiential. I mean, who doesn't want that feeling of God's grace and love to wash over them? But we also see in the Scriptures that you don't need that to have a thriving, joyful life. What you need is faith in the steadfast love of God, the chesed love of God, the unwavering, I'm going to keep you, I won't forsake you, I will never leave you. So even if I don't feel it, He's here. Now I want to feel-

Annie: But that can feel like we're Lukewarm. That can feel like, Oh, no, am I lukewarm? Because I didn't want to read my Bible today.

Matt: Sure, sure. Well, and this is where I love David again. And here's where I think the difference is. I think the man or woman who's after God's own heart, even in a season of dryness or weariness is bringing those emotions. "I don't want to read my Bible." Because when you say, "I don't want to read my Bible", what you're really saying is, I want to want to.

Annie: Right. I want to want to, but I don't.

Matt: I want to want to, but I don't. But if you're bringing that to the Lord, right? If instead of just going, I don't want to, so I must be in the desert season. Like what we see biblically is nobody loves the desert season. Nobody's like, I really love my time in the desert. They hate it.

That's all of David's Psalms of descent are like, "I hate this, Lord. I don't want this. I remember what it was like to not be in this season. I remember going with the throne, in the procession, into your house. One thing I ask and all that I desire, all I want, is to dwell in the house of the Lord forever, to seek you, to gaze upon your beauty."

So lukewarmness doesn't want to want to read their Bible. Lukewarmness doesn't want to want to be alive in the Lord and have that feeling. The true disciple longs. In fact, I would argue longing is one of the things that pulls us forward in the Christian life. I want to be farther along than I am. I want to be holier than I am.

This is Jesus. Blessed are you in your hunger and thirst for righteousness. Well, what's his promise? You'll be filled. I will fill you. But when? But when? When is the text saying? Doesn't. He doesn't say. He doesn't say.

Annie: He's not like, if this is lunch and you want lunch, you've got lunch. No.

Matt: Yeah, that's right. No, it's not. I think what's happening in those moments where we want to want to and don't is that the Spirit is expanding our capacity for the next outpouring or turning up of the Spirit in us. I will once a quarter... Lauren and I have got a little property out on the Brazos River, and it's where I go to replenish. I'm not going to see anybody. I'm not going to do any work. I'm just going to go out there and be alone with the Lord.

And sometimes, man, as soon as I roll in there, I get a sense of the presence of Jesus. Man, it's just a delightful four days. But oftentimes, I am in an internal war with myself the whole time I'm out there, because I'm an achiever by nature, I'm a doer. In fact, one of the great struggles of my life is that I feel useful to the Lord, not necessarily wanted. That might be a little too deep, but that's my wrestle with the Lord. Like if I do for you, then you're cheering me on. But when I can't do for you, I feel like I'm letting you down.

So, man, when I'm out there and I just want to be with him, but I can't turn off my brain for what I need to get done and deadlines that are looming and things that I feel like I should be getting done. And I might spend the whole four days out there wrestling with myself.

In fact, there have been times on day three, I'm like, screw this, I'm just going home. And then I catch myself. And what I've learned is God's in that. He's stretching me. He's expanding my capacity for Him. He's creating more hunger and thirst for Him.

So even those seasons that are desert seasons, He's in that with us. He's with us. And that's where faith has to kick in. Lukewarmness doesn't care that they don't want to read the Bible. Lukewarmness doesn't care that they don't want to worship. Lukewarmness doesn't mind the season they're in.

The disciple hates it and is bringing it to the Lord, going, Please. I mean, I know you're here. I know I'm believing by faith you're with me in this. I don't know how long I'm going to be here. I want to start praying some of these psalms. And I can't tell you how often I pray those psalms.

Annie: Wow. Okay, I think that's really helpful for us. Because when the Bible says if you're lukewarm, God's going to spit you out of His mouth, it can make you go, let me just confirm. Let me get a solid definition.

Matt: A couple follow-up questions.

Annie: Yeah, that helps me a lot. That helps me a lot. All through Revelation... I mean, you know, like I said, our friends listening have heard us talk Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. If someone didn't catch this already, the same John who wrote John is the one who wrote Revelation. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts, we see Jesus. Will you talk for a minute, Matt, about the Jesus we see in Revelation? Because that guy rides in on a horse with a sword and he has a tattoo on his thigh. There's not a world where anybody saw his thigh in 30 AD. So this is the same guy, but it's not the same guy.

Matt: No, you're right, you're right. Here's why Revelation is so needed and necessary. The picture of Jesus in Revelation is one of ultimate victory over every enemy. He is enthroned, and He is almighty, and He's still the Lamb. So on multiple occasions in Revelation, John's told, behold the Lion of Judah, and he turns and he sees the Lamb. But it's the lamb, lion, enthroned.

Annie: Oh, right. He says Lion of Judah, but he sees a lamb.

Matt: That's right.

Annie: Match. Oh, I'm in New York. I don't have my mind... I have a button that I push that says Wowie zowie whenever my mind gets blown.

Matt: Oh, now I feel robbed. Now I feel robbed.

Annie: We'll insert it. We'll insert it right here. [wowie zowie]

Matt: Okay, thank you. Thank you.

Annie: Okay, wait. He says Lion of Judah, but when he turns, it's a lamb.

Matt: It's a slaughtered lamb.

Annie: Dude.

Matt: And what is Jesus called in John? Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Annie: Who takes away the sins of the world.

Matt: But the whole book of Revelation rotates not around the earth, but on the throne room of God. In fact, every time the window changes... because Revelation's not linear, it's not a linear book. You've got an interlude in there. It feels like it's jumping around. John is already always caught up.

So the question as we read Revelation is not what does John see next, but what does the next window show us? So the whole book, I mean, it's framed up in a really beautiful way right after the letters to the churches.

What happens after the letter? You see John transported to the window, which is the throne room of Jesus. He's the one worthy to open the scroll. You have God enthroned. You have the rainbow behind Him, which is the promise of what? His grace. The rainbow is a promise of His grace.

You have all creation, all of history moving towards this throne. You have the elders casting down their throne. You have the 24 elders representing the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles. You've got all of history in front of King Jesus and His goodness and mercy and might are flowing, and He's being worshiped by a number that can't be counted. This is Christ enthroned.

And keep in mind, what's John showing? He's pulling back the curtain on ultimate reality. And here's the kicker of Revelation. That's not the future. That's right now. We're not waiting for that to happen. We're in it.

Annie: That's already happening.

Matt: We're in it right now. That's the ultimate reality behind everything we see, smell, touch, and taste.

Annie: But it's happening in heaven right now until there's a new heaven and a new earth?

Matt: Well, it will come down in its completion. But for the believer, it's available to you right now. So I tell this story in the book. I think it illustrates the point. When I started to go to church with Jeff Faircloth, he's the guy that shared the gospel with me and introduced me to Jesus. Like, I would be with Jeff, and we'd be talking girls and football, and we'd be talking about this girl named Leanne who was cute.

And then we would get there, and they'd play some dumb game, you know, student ministry and the youth minister would get up, and they would, you know, make some announcements. Then they would start to sing different songs. You know, this is the 90s. And so they would start singing, like, *Humble Thyself on the Side of the Lord*.

They would start, you know, singing *Our God is an Awesome God*. And it was like the whole room changed. As an unbeliever, it was like everybody left the room, and I was still there. It was like I would look over, and this guy I was just talking football with and talking about Leanne with has, his eyes closed, and he's got his hands up, and it's like he's in this different place, and I don't know how to go with him. I have no idea how to go with him.

Annie: Oh, interesting.

Matt: Then when Christ saved me, I mean, I almost immediately knew where they were going, and I would go with them. But where are they going? Well, into the presence of Jesus. They're doing what's being done right now all over the world so that we have access to this reigning, ruling, powerful presence right now. This is not some future reality.

This is what John's trying to help the Christians in 96 AD see: Christ is victorious. He has won. He's not winning. He's won. He's enthroned, and He's available. And that victory is available to you right now. In fact, it's His victory, and He wants to give it to you. So keep being faithful. Stay steadfast. Hold out for the reward that's here and is coming. And we're pulled forward by future hope in those last two chapters of Revelation, but we're sustained right now in the total victory of Christ over the principalities and powers of this dark world.

Annie: I mean, I love Jesus. Full stop. But I love the Jesus of Revelation. I'm like, Oh, this guy's on my team?

Matt: Yes, He is.

Annie: This guy is for me?

Matt: Yeah.

Annie: This is who we marry in the end?

Matt: That's it.

Annie: He's a boss. I mean, he's always the boss.

Matt: He's worth it.

Annie: He gave his life for us.

Matt: Yeah, He's worth it.

Annie: Yeah, he's worth it.

Matt: He's worth it.

[00:43:49] <music>

Sponsor: Hey friends! Just interrupting this conversation to tell you about one of our incredible partners, [Shopify](#). We were just recently dreaming up some new merch ideas for [shopanniefdowns.com](#) and the whole reason it's so easy to get merch to you is because of Shopify, truly. Our team totally loves Shopify. It is super easy to use, which really matters to us. So what's the thing you're dreaming up and ready to sell?

Shopify can help you make it happen. Shopify is the global commerce platform that helps you sell at every stage of your business. And if you want to make marketing real simple, Shopify removes the guesswork with built-in tools that help you create, execute, and analyze your online marketing campaigns.

I love data and analytics, and Shopify can give you the insights you need even when you're on the go. With Shopify's single dashboard, you can manage orders, shipping, and payments from literally anywhere. Shopify helps you sell at every stage of your business. They have an all-in-one e-commerce platform and an in-person POS system, so you are set no matter what.

Sign up for \$1 per month trial period at shopify.com/soundsfun, all lowercase. Again, just go to shopify.com/soundsfun right now and grow your business no matter what stage you're in. [Shopify.com/soundsfun](https://shopify.com/soundsfun).

Sponsor: Y'all, we all love something that is customized to us. Getting our favorite outfit tailored to fit just right, getting a custom piece of art for your house, listening to a playlist that's customized for us based on what we like to listen to. So why not use custom hair care?

We all have different hair textures and types and switching to a custom hair care routine has been so helpful for me. My hair looks healthier and shinier. Plus, [Prose](https://prose.com) also has custom skincare, which is so great because we definitely all have different needs for our skin too.

With Prose, it is all about personalization. You do their in-depth consultation and they come up with your made-to-order products. There are millions of possible formulas, but only one is uniquely yours or mine. Prose isn't just better for you, it's better for the planet. They're a certified B Corp, they're cruelty-free, and they're the first and only carbon-neutral custom beauty brand.

Prose is so confident that they will bring out your best hair and skin that they're offering an exclusive trial of 50% off your first subscription order, you guys. Just go to prose.com/thatsoundsfun. So you get your free consultation, then 50% off at prose.com/thatsoundsfun. That's prose.com/thatsoundsfun.

And now to finish up our conversation with Pastor Matt.

[00:46:20] <music>

Annie: Now, you know I've got to talk about this. On page 107, you talk about how the enemy particularly hates women.

Matt: Oh, he does.

Annie: Well, for starters, I already didn't like him. But you better tell us more about this because this is like great material for me.

Matt: All the more reason to hate him.

Annie: Yes.

Matt: I've got a great quote in the book and this guy he wrote a book and he just shows how the enemy has been at war with women since day one. He goes to Exodus and

shows really how the midwives are the first ones to kind of foil the plans of the enemy. And he just walks through scripture and shows how the enemy has a special hatred for women and children, specifically women. This is even in view as we look in Revelation 12 at the dragon who despises the woman. He hates her.

And because God has done such profound and beautiful work through women... and the enemy... If you look at cultures that turn their back on God, it's always worse for women and children. Always.

Annie: You're right.

Matt: The weight of a government that turns its back on God always lands on women first and always lands on them hardest. They are the most vulnerable to the attack and work of the enemy in our day. That's why when women, when they're in... man, they're all in on King Jesus, they are a real problem.

And I'm just telling you, I don't know how this is hitting listeners, but go study revivals. behind almost every huge revival. I know it starts with kids, but I bet you're going to find a bunch of women praying into the night for it.

Annie: Florey Evans, too. Florey Evans in Wales. All she did was stand up and say, "I'm giving Jesus my whole heart, my life," and the revival kicked off.

Matt: Here we go.

Annie: Listen, you know that makes me want to jump out of my chair to be like, Oh, you hate me? Oh, let's go.

Matt: But that's what revelation is supposed to do to the believer. Oh, you want some of this? Because the victory of Christ has been given to me, let's go.

Annie: Yeah, let's go. This happens to us a lot because our people love to be readers. And so they'll say, what book did he mention? I don't want to do that. I don't want to answer that 55 times, so I'm going to answer it right now. The scholar is named Stephen Dempster who wrote about the women against the beast. So if y'all want to read more about that, you can read it in *The Overcomers*. And then the scholar is named Steven Dempster.

Oh boy, Chandler, that gets me rolling. Okay, mark of the beast. What is the mark of the beast? Is it something we put in our bodies already? Is it our credit cards, in our hands? Is it being able to walk into an Amazon store and walk out without paying?

Matt: Well, that's already happening, so let's hope not.

Annie: That's my fear. That's my fear.

Matt: Yeah, come on. The way that the New Testament and Old Testament use this language is kind of like the mark on the head is ideology, and the mark on the hands is outworking of that ideology. And so even if you go back to Deuteronomy, what does he say to do with the law? Put it on your forehead.

Annie: Put it on your forehead.

Matt: Write it on your hands, put it on your doorpost. So your ideology and your hands need to match up. The mark of the beast has been in the world since the beginning. It's anyone who ideologically is opposed to King Jesus. Then that leads to an outworking of rebellion against His kingdom.

So I don't think it's going to be a chip that they put in your hand or like a tattoo they're going to put on your forehead. I mean, give me a break. Nobody cares anyway. Everybody here's got a cell phone. I mean, it's just funny to me that people are like, well, what if it's this?

Annie: That's kind of my fear. I'm always afraid I'm going to accidentally get the mark of the beast because I wasn't paying attention.

Matt: But you can see that's not the way it works. The thing that nobody else talks about is the children of God are actually marked by God before that angel is even loosed to do that.

Annie: Oh, right.

Matt: So the people of God are sealed first. Well, what are they sealed with? The Holy Spirit. So kingdom ideology with an outworking of the kingdom in their everyday normal lives, which is, by the way, how the gospel is spread across the world. Not blue-checked celebrity eights and threes, charismatic personalities. It's everyday faithful, stay-at-home moms, businesswomen, welders. I mean, that's the way the kingdom of God's moved forward, not dynamic communicators.

Which is why I wrote the book, because I'm not writing it to people who are charismatic extroverts. I'm saying, no, no, no, all of us, all of us have been uniquely wired, uniquely gifted, and uniquely placed. So let's go get it.

Annie: Will you close with this? I'd love for you to talk about the October prayer walks you have your church do.

Matt: Oh, come on. I love it.

Annie: Is this like, Put your feet on the ground and... Matt Chandler can't do everything that the neighborhoods can do on an October prayer walk.

Matt: No question. So what we've been doing for quite a few years now at The Village is October is a month of prayer. That doesn't mean we're not praying the other 11 months. I always feel like I have to say that. Somebody's like, why not pray all the time? We do, okay?

But a special thing we do in October is we encourage every family at our church, and we send them a little example prayers here, and we just go, go for a walk with your whole family. Like, bring your kids, bring your dog, whatever other animal you have, just go for a walk and just pray blessings over the homes in your neighborhood. Just bless that marriage, bless them financially, give them the desires of their heart, just walk down there.

Then what's happened, one, that's the kind of kingdom warfare that we should be giving ourselves to all the time. Like, prayer does things. Even when we don't know it does things, it's doing things. Then what's happened almost every year is somebody happens to be out front. And then there we are to go, hey, you doing all right? Listen, I'm just praying blessings over your home. I'm asking that the God of the universe would bless your life. Is there anything in particular I can pray for you about, like, that's a pain point? And now we're in a spiritual conversation with our neighbor.

We've seen people come to know Christ this way. We've seen people grow in boldness this way. And it's just low-hanging fruit. Just go for a walk. You might already be going for a walk. Well, how about as you walk, just bless this house in the name of Jesus. And if you run into a neighbor or somebody else out walking, you just go, Hey, I'm out praying blessing. God's blessing over people. Is there anything I could pray for you about?

You'd be shocked at how open people are to receive prayer, even if they don't want anything to do with Christianity. I mean, trust me, when I'm doing jujitsu, as soon as I'm done rolling with the guy, I'm always like, "Hey, I've got some time set aside this afternoon to pray. How can I pray for you? I've had grown men with tattoos on their neck and gauges in their ear almost break down crying about their marriage or about their job or this thing with their kid.

And now, all of a sudden, I'm praying. I'm circling back around. You doing all right? Anything I can do? How's that going? This is a way to push back darkness

and see light established that's really, really easy. You don't have to know all the answers. You're just praying.

And if you've got questions, you're like, man, I've got a good friend that can answer that question. Or let me go ask, and I'll circle back around. It doesn't make you lose credibility if your answer is: I'm not sure, that's really a great question. I think even the "that's a great question, I don't know" humanizes you in a way that I think they'll move towards and not from.

Annie: I love that in the book you also say like, October is a great month in Texas because it's cooled off and everybody's outside. Like, this isn't something you say, dear church, 365 days, go out and save your neighbors. You're like, no, no, no, we focus on it. We pay attention. I love the freedom of that and the like, that's what an overcomer looks like is getting out in your neighborhood.

Matt: That's it.

Annie: And like, okay, I know I said that was the last one, but there was one more thing I wrote down that I think will be really fun for you to talk about. And we really will close with this.

Matt: Come on.

Annie: Eternity. You used to be scared of it. Maybe I'm kind of actually still kind of scared of it. But you talk in the book about that Revelation tells us like, our bodies will be different, but we will still be recognized because every tribe, tongue, and nation will be there. So we will still be us in some way.

Matt: Oh, absolutely.

Annie: And you talk about the work we'll do. So will you give us a little bit of a vision of like, What is eternity going to be? I know people are like, we're not going to be on clouds and blah, blah, blah. Are we going to be in a worship service for the rest of forever?

Matt: No. That's what's interesting to note. Like somehow this has captured the imagination of most Western people, which is like heaven is this gazillion-year worship celebration. But the Bible doesn't define-

Annie: But you're also making me feel guilty if you don't want that, by the way. I want to worship Jesus just standing there for forever.

Matt: Yeah, for sure.

Annie: I mean, I do, but I also like fun stuff.

Matt: No, yeah. Well, and there'll be fun galore. I mean, ever-expanding joy in the presence of Jesus. The best news about heaven—and by the way, in Revelation, heaven comes down. We don't go up. So what you see in the book of Revelation and the prophecies concerning the end of all things is not that the earth is destroyed, because God's not going to concede the earth to his enemies. He's not going to concede to His enemies anything. He certainly isn't like, well, you got this one, so let me start over. That's not what this is.

What you see is a new earth refined. That fire you read about in 1 Peter is a refiner's fire. It burns away impurities, and it puts things back where they should be. And if you remember, if you go back to Genesis 1 and 2, there's work without toil. Right? There's work that doesn't produce thorns and thistles. It produces fruit and fruitfulness.

So work has been woven into us because we serve a God who works. It delights Him to create. I mean, He's so happy... I mean, God's the happiest being in the universe. I don't know why we got where He's all like stuffy and frustrated. There's never been anyone happier than God. I mean, what did He say at creation? Nailed that, that's good, that's good. And then He creates us, He's like, oh, that's... I killed it. That's very good.

Then if you go to the festivals, I mean, he gave his people festivals. He actually threatens them. Like, you show up late to this party, you show up half-hearted, you better show up and you better go hard because I'm a God who delights.

Then Psalm 16:11, right? You have made known to me the path of life. You fill me with joy in your presence. And then what's the last line? Eternal pleasures at your right hand. Eternal pleasures. Like, I got so much pleasure here. We got to do this for eternity.

The picture in Revelation that we get is that it is a literal, physical location, and we will have literal, physical bodies. Now, they're heavenly bodies so that we can be in the presence of Jesus without getting melted. They are resurrected bodies. They can't get sick. They won't hurt. They don't die. They can hold this kind of holiness of God, which is unfettered and in our presence, which is the best news of heaven. It's not all the cool stuff. It's that we get God. In fact, we actually get into the dance of the triune God of the universe.

There's no temple there. There doesn't need to be a temple, because we're right in the middle of that dance of delight within the Godhead, where the Spirit's like,

Jesus is incredible. And Jesus is like, look at the Father. And the Father's like, look at my Son. And they're just right in the middle of that.

Annie: And the Holy Spirit's like, look, you guys.

Matt: It's gonna be amazing, just everywhere you look. So we will be on a literal physical remade earth. Heaven has come down, the two have joined. It's not a pinprick like it is now where the kingdom breaks in, where heaven breaks in. It's heaven and earth are nude, renewed. and we're in it.

Jesus has some things to say about, like... some of you, you're going to judge angels. It's like, you're going to have this job and you're going to. There's this great quote by Hochman that I put in the book where he's just like, Are we still going to explore space? Are we still going to dig down? Are there going to be new and better Beethovens, new and better Rembrandts? Are there going to be...? And it's this idea of ever-increasing delight without the brokenness of sin.

This is the future hope that's pulling us forward. This is why the Apostle Paul says that these light and momentary afflictions, which, by the way, aren't light, and for him, weren't momentary. But in light of this vision of where we're headed, that we're... I mean, even on this podcast, where were we at? 50 minutes closer to now than when we started. That this is pulling me forward. And whatever happens to me in the here and now is light and momentary when this ever-increasing enjoyment of God and His goodness are experienced by me in a literal physical location with a literal physical body reigning and ruling alongside King Jesus for eternity. That'll get you up in the morning. That'll hold you fast through some pretty dark days.

Annie: Matt Chandler, I love you. Thank you for doing this. Man, what a treat.

Matt: Oh, listen, anytime I can be with Annie Downs, I'm saying yes.

Annie: Yeah, I love you guys. I'm grateful, grateful. Okay, the book of Revelation. Let's read it. Let's go.

Matt: Come on.

[00:59:44] <music>

Outro: Oh, you guys, isn't he the best? Okay, doesn't that make the book of Revelation seem readable and survivable and like we should go there? I know. I have loved these conversations, getting so curious about these books.

Listen, go get your copy of *The Overcomers*. It is the book that comes out tomorrow. It is so good and really deep dives some of the things that when you heard Matt and I talk about, you thought, Ooh, I wish they'd keep going in that direction. He does. So go get the book and go follow him on social media. Tell him thanks so much for being on the show.

And if you have any questions from this episode, you can drop them in the Q&A box on your Spotify app, if you're a Spotify listener like me, or send them to us on Instagram @thatsoundsfunpodcast, and we'll try to answer them there.

If you need anything else from me, you know I'm embarrassingly easy to find. Annie F. Downs on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook. Anywhere you may need me, that is how you can find me.

I think that's it for me today, friends. Go out or stay home. and do something that sounds fun to you, and I will do the same. Today what sounds fun to me is we're getting ready to have a meeting about the Ryman weekend on August 11th, and all the fun things are gonna be happening around our Ryman show on the 11th. I cannot wait.

Y'all have a great week. We'll see you back here on Thursday for a special Mother's Day conversation with Kimberly Schlapman from *Little Big Town*. Y'all are going to love this conversation. Whether you're a mom or not, this one is for you. We'll see y'all on Thursday.