



Joseph: Not Your Average Joe – A life with detours

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (Page 1)

TRADITIONAL MODEL:

In what ways does the image of a detour describe times in your life?

Do you think detours are an unavoidable part of life? Why?

Can you look back on some detours that actually ended up creating something meaningful and life changing?

How does Psalm 37:5 help you with life detours? What steps could you take to trust the Lord more?

What are the titles being written in you story right now?

How is the hope of the gospel affecting this part of your life right now? Col. 1:23

How will knowing Christ change the outcome of this chapter of your life today?

CONTEMPLATIVE MODEL:

What are you learning about God from this message?

What are you learning about yourself from the message?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (Page 2)

What questions does this message bring up for you?

What is God doing in your heart lately?

What things do you feel are getting in the way from what God wants to do in you?

What is the biggest thing causing you concern these days? (something to pray about)

What is the Gospel?

The Gospel is the “good news” that Jesus entered into our broken world to rescue us from sin. The good news is that through Christ’s redemptive sacrifice on the cross, sinners are pardoned, the undeserving are given grace, and the broken are restored. There is no sin too heinous for God’s forgiveness. There is no person so good in-and-of-themselves that they do not require forgiveness. Salvation is a free gift of God to anyone who genuinely acknowledges their brokenness and confesses saving faith in the Son of God. It doesn’t take strong faith, just genuine faith in order to be saved.

An example prayer you could pray:

Heavenly Father, I acknowledge I’m broken and a sinner. I believe that Christ died on the cross for sin, and through his resurrection overcame sin and death. I believe in you. I thank you for saving me.

The good news does not end with a confession of faith. New faith can grow into deep faith if cultivated. Let someone at Sunridge know about your new-found faith, and inquire about our new believer’s resource: God Time: Your First 31 Days. Follow Christ wholeheartedly by professing your faith publicly through baptism, learning the Bible by attending church regularly and pursuing the unique calling of Jesus in your life!



Leader Guide: A life with detours

Joseph: An ordinary person living a remarkable life through extraordinary circumstances.

“Is this good or bad?”

Why Joseph?

- 1) Joseph is a key figure in Hebrew history.
- 2) Joseph is an example to follow

Ro 15:4 Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. They give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God’s promises. NLT
1Co 10:11 All these events happened to them as examples for us. NLT

- 3) Joseph’s story is our story

Detours

GOOD READ: Detours, The Unpredictable Path To Your Destiny. Tony Evans

Detours are a deviation from the most direct route.

Detours are unavoidable

Substitute detours for suffering

Ro 5:3 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our detours ~~sufferings~~, because we know that detours ~~suffering~~ produce perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Detours remind us that God is at work *on the way*

Mr 10:17 As Jesus started **on his way**, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

God works through us.

God may change us.

Ro 5:4 detours ~~suffering~~ produce perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope.



Detours can be God's way of redirecting us

Ps 37:5 Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him.

Joh 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have detours ~~trouble~~. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Joh 14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.