



In this series we are looking at how God used detours in the life of Joseph to change the destiny of Israel.

Detours are a change in our plans that God uses to develop our character and competency, so we can arrive at a better destination.

Detours take us off the road, but never out of God's reach.

OPENING QUESTIONS - Use these questions to connect with others in your group:

1. Share one plan you have to get together with friends and neighbors this summer.
2. As a kid, what is something you were devastated about then, but now realize how insignificant it was?

KEY POINTS - take a minute to review the key points from this weekend's message

1. Forgiveness is tough! All of us have times when we really struggle with forgiveness.
2. We sometimes go through the motions of forgiveness on the outside without having true forgiveness in our heart.
3. When life is derailed, knocked off the path we intended, and we find ourselves on a DETOUR, we can choose to take one of three paths;
 - a. Resignation - ignore it or let it go
 - b. Revenge - retaliation or pay back
 - c. Reconciliation - starts with forgiveness
4. God's faithfulness doesn't mean a life free from tragedy. God's faithfulness means He can redeem tragedy.

SCRIPTURES USED IN THIS MESSAGE: Proverbs 25:21-22 Genesis 42:1-8 Genesis 45:4-7 Matthew 18:21-22 Matthew 7:1-5 Matthew 5:38-42 1 Peter 3:9 Romans 12:17-21 Genesis 50:15, 18-21

RESPOND

Talk about a thought, phrase, or moment from this weekend's message that stuck with you. Give a brief reason for why these things stuck with you.

When reflecting on Joseph's entire life, what is the part that you can most resonate with? Why?

Think of a time in your life when you had a particularly hard time forgiving someone. Share one thing that helped you through this detour.

Read

Take some time to read the verses and discuss the commitments that will help us practice forgiveness.

1. Stop keeping score - Matthew 18:21-22
2. Look in the mirror - Matthew 7:1-5
3. Show kindness - Matthew 5:38-42 and 1 Peter 3:9
4. Let God be God - Romans 12:17-21

APPLY

Write down the name of one person that you need to forgive and one thing you will specifically pray for to take a step toward forgiveness.

PRAY