

week two

the journey.

BIG IDEA

Life consists of many events, many seasons and many twists and turns. Life can be complicated, confusing, tragic, beautiful, or amazing all at once and affected by various *detours and delays*.

All of us have encountered detours and delays in our life. Some insignificant that we don't think too much about it and others so significant that it impacts our lives in a way that robs our peace and joy.

The definition of DETOUR:

a long or roundabout route taken to avoid something or to visit somewhere along the way.

The definition of DELAY:

a period of time by which something is late or postponed

This weekend we looked at the life of Joseph in the Old Testament and how his journey inspires us to keep moving forward when we encounter detours and delays on our life. In our journey we learn to have resilience, which is described by the author Brene Brown as *"the ability to overcome adversity"* including the adverse effects that detours and delays bring upon our lives. It is with this resilience, rooted in the person of Jesus Christ, that we get through this life as an overcomer and are able to really see the work of God in our lives.

The journey of Joseph referred to in this weekend's message can be found in the following chapters of the Bible:

Genesis 37 - Joseph's early years, his dreams and being sold into slavery

Genesis 39 - Joseph in Potiphar's house

Genesis 40 - Joseph interpreting two dreams in prison

Genesis 41 - Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream

Genesis 50:20 NLT

²⁰You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.

Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT

Trust in the LORD with all your heart;
do not depend on your own understanding.

⁶Seek his will in all you do,
and he will show you which path to take.

Romans 8:28-29

²⁸And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. ²⁹For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is one thing that spoke to you from last weekend's sermon?
2. In this weekend's sermon, we heard about Joseph's incredible life journey. He had many detours, which could have easily broken his spirit. Can you share with your group a significant detour or delay you have encountered in your life or may be experiencing now? How do you see God's hand in your situation?
3. The Bible says that throughout his detours in Potiphar's house, in prison, and as a ruler in Egypt, God was with Joseph. Have you ever felt that God was not with you throughout your detour or delay? What made you think so?
4. How are you going to build your spiritual resilience this week? What can you do to have more strength, confidence, and toughness to get through life's detours and delays?

Pray for your group's members that are experiencing a detour or delay in their lives. Also, pray for your pastors and leaders that they may have strength, grace and wisdom to guide and empower the church through this journey we call life.