

Road To Bethlehem | Detours

Next Steps Review: At the end of last week we were challenged to include God in our daily routine.

How does your day feel any different when you take the time to include God in it?

This Week's Big Idea: When life takes a detour, we remember that God is with us.

What do you remember most, or what stuck with you from the weekend's teaching?

Ice Breaker: Tell the group about the best or worst road trip you've ever taken.

Scripture: Matthew 1|18 - 24

1. Think back to a time when life threw you a curveball, how did you react?
2. Consider this startling news from the perspective of Mary and Joseph. What might they have been thinking, and what can we learn from how they responded to God's plan?
3. Knowing that God is with us and has a plan for us, what can we do when life takes us on a detour?

Scripture: Genesis 17|1-5

4. Think back to a time when you were promised something that, at the time, was hard to believe but came true. Share that experience with the group. What were your thoughts or feelings before and after the promise came true?
5. Because of his age, God's promise had to be difficult for Abraham to believe. What promises of God in scripture are hard for you to believe?

Scripture: Hebrews 11|1-12

7. Share a time in your life when you obeyed what God was telling you, even if it was hard to do so and you didn't understand why.
8. Think of someone who is a great example of living by faith. What do you notice differently about that person compared to someone who doesn't live by faith?
9. None of these examples of faith come without obstacles. What obstacles are preventing you from obeying God's plan for you?

Next Steps: What is a next step you can take to strengthen your faith and embrace God's promises?