



En Route

Journey Interrupted

Bible Study

The Word

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28, 41:39-46

Feel free to read or summarize the bits in between and following!

- What was Joseph's plan?
- What disrupted his plans?
- Did he end up where he had intended?

Jonah 1: 1—2:10

- Where was Jonah going?
- What did his travel companions do to him?
- Did he arrive at his planned destination when he anticipated he would?

Acts 27:1—28:1

- Where was Paul going?
- What happened on their journey?
- Did he arrive at his planned destination when he anticipated he would?

Things to think through

Where I grew up, there were 2 places I loved to get ice cream. One was the Dairy Queen on Main Street. The other was the local dairy, which was on a side street on the outskirts of town. When my family would go for a treat, we would often find ourselves at the most convenient one on Main Street. But... every now and then, there would be construction on that road and we would make a trip out of the way to the dairy. Now the ice cream at Dairy Queen was always good... but the ice cream at the dairy was always that much better. Looking back on it now, I realize, that the best ice cream, usually was found on the detour. When our journey was interrupted, and we had to go the long way around, there was usually a reward I didn't anticipate, and it was always sweeter than I had expected.

This has been quite the year for all of us. We have been put on a massive detour.

Have you ever experienced a detour in your life before?

Can you look back now and see where there might have been some positive things that came or happened as a result of that detour that wouldn't have happened if you had not taken it?

Have you ever looked back and realized that even in the not so great moments on a journey, God was there?

Where might God be in your current detour? If you haven't found something great that has come out of all this yet, keep looking! I promise you, God is there waiting to be seen and experienced.



... page 2

Sharing the Encounter

When you are out on your next walk or bike ride, consider taking a different route, or the long way around. Keep your eyes open for unexpected things, or things you don't normally see on your journey. Great things abound in our world, even during this time, if only we watch for them!

Prayer

Heavenly God,

We know that when we make plans, you giggle just a little bit. We know that we are not ever fully in charge, but we make plans in hope, and forget that sometimes things might not work out the way we want them to.

We also know, without question that YOU are always with us, when things go the way we imagine, and when they don't. We know that you never leave us, or forsake us even when we feel at our lowest, or we find ourselves in our greatest disappointments.

Thank you for always being there. Thank you for always having us in the palm of your hand, holding us close when we need it most.

Keep watch over us all until we can meet again in person.

Amen.

*Stay safe and be well.
Until we meet again!*