



- Departure
- Decisions
- Directions

Detours – Facing Life’s Unexpected Turns  
Proverbs 16:9

Proverbs 16:9 (HCSB)

A man’s heart plans his way, but the LORD determines his steps.

### **I. The Truth about Our Detours**



Jeremiah 10:23 (HCSB)

“I know, LORD, that a man’s way of life is not his own; no one who walks determines his own steps.”

### **II. The Trial of Our Detours**

Genesis 37:18 (NIV)

But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him.

Genesis 37:27-28 (NIV)

Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed. So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

Genesis 37:36 (NIV)

Meanwhile, the Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard.

Genesis 39:19-20 (NIV)

When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is how your slave treated me," he burned with anger. Joseph's master took him and put him in prison,

Exodus 13:17-18 (NIV)

When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. ...God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea.

Exodus 14:1-4 (NIV)

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Tell the Israelites to turn back and encamp near Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea. They are to encamp by the sea. Pharaoh will think, 'The Israelites are wandering around the land in confusion, hemmed in by the desert.' And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them.

Job 1:1-4 (NIV)

"In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil. He had seven sons and three daughters, and he owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen and five hundred donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East."

Job 1:18-19 (NIV)

"Another messenger came and said, 'Your sons and daughters were feasting ...when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!' "

Job 3:1,11,25-26 (NIV)

After this, Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth. "Why did I not perish at birth, and die as I came from the womb? What I feared has come upon me; what I dreaded has happened to me. I have no peace, no quietness; I have no rest, but only turmoil."

### **III. The Transformation of Our Detours**

Exodus 14:4, 13-14 (NIV)

"...But I will gain glory for myself through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD."

"Moses answered the people, 'Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.'"

Exodus 14:31-15:2

"And when the Israelites saw the great power the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant. Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD: "I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea. The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him."

Genesis 45:4-8 (NIV)

"Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come close to me. ...I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you...to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. It was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt.'"

Job 19:25-26 (NIV)

"I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God."