

RCMI L-Path Teaching
November 1, 2020
(English)

TITLE: Of Roadblocks and Detours

TEXT: Genesis 37: 2-8; others as specified

BIG IDEA: Understand that God frequently takes us on roadblocks & detours from the path toward our own destiny for the purpose of maturing and equipping us.

INTRO: NOV. THEME: **PATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS**

[BIG IDEA: Joseph was a man who faced extreme circumstances yet glorified God in all he encountered.]

- **Roadblock is a barrier or barricade on a road, set up by authorities to stop and examine traffic. A detour is a long or roundabout route for use by traffic when the usual road is temporally closed.**
- Sometimes life feels like these inconvenient road trips, a series of stops, starts, delays, detours, reroutes, and roadblocks. With each navigation challenge, comes frustration and fatigue. You may be at a place in your life's journey where you feel you're trapped by roadblocks or that detours have sent you in a direction you never intended to go.
- As believers in Jesus Christ, we have both an eternal & present destiny.
- God has a plan for your life and a purpose for your existence.
- But He rarely ever takes us to that destiny apart from roadblocks & detours. Part of experiencing your destiny is understanding your obstacles.

I. THE PATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS INCLUDES ROADBLOCKS & DETOURS.

- **The Faith Journey Is An Obstacle Course.**
- There a lot of examples given in the Bible about men having to go through detours & roadblocks. Moses, Israel, Abraham, Paul, Jesus, etc.
- **There is no individual in the Bible who illustrates this principle of roadblocks and detours and its relationship to destiny like the life of Joseph.**
- Joseph spends thirteen years on a detour-enduring slavery and prison before entering Pharaoh's service (Genesis 37:1-2; 41:46).
- Just like these biblical figures, God takes us on roadblocks and detours to develop us for His purpose.

II. THE ROADBLOCKS & DETOURS ARE USED BY GOD TO PREPARE US FOR OUR DESTINY.

A. Roadblocks and Detours Are Used To Develop Our Maturity

- The purpose of roadblocks & detours is to develop you for the destiny that God has for you while God is developing the destiny for when you arrive.
- The reason why God creates detours is because He's got to do some development in our lives first.
- Even though God reveals Joseph's destiny, He also takes him on many roadblocks and detours in order to mature him for his coming reign over Egypt.
- God takes us on roadblocks and detours to prepare us for the destiny He has prepared for us.

B. As We Journey In The Path of The Righteous, sometimes things will get worse before it gets better.

[v.8]

- God cannot give you your destiny if you will not allow Him to shape your character.
- Sometimes when God is taking us on a detour, He allows us to be stripped of things we love the most. Stripped of things we consider the most precious, the most valuable.

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- Even though most obstacles are difficult and seem as though life is getting worse, they are really part of God's design to prepare us for our future.

CHALLENGE: We don't always have the benefit of signs that include the word "ahead" after "roadblock" or "detour." Usually, we slam into the things that bring us to a halt and send us in another direction without warning. But the good news is we eventually reach the end of the journey. It may not be the destination you mapped out when you started, but if you've accepted God's roadblocks and detours it's the destination He planned for you. [Romans 8:28]

DISCUSSION:

- What have you learned from our study about roadblocks and detours of life?
- How will you apply what you've learned in dealing with your situation? Share.