



GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

God's Faithfulness Through Unexpected Detours

Speaker: Tammy Markus

Highlighted Scripture

- **1 Thessalonians 5:11–18**

Paul calls believers to encourage and build one another up, help the discouraged and weak, rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in every circumstance.

- **Galatians 6:9**

Believers are encouraged not to grow weary in doing good, trusting that God will bring a harvest at the proper time if they remain faithful.

- **Psalms 126:5–6**

Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. God is able to bring a joyful harvest even from seasons of sorrow and hardship.

Discussion Questions

- **Tammy shares that what first appeared to be a devastating setback later became a blessing. Have you experienced a time when God used disappointment for your good?**
- **Why is encouragement from other believers so important during difficult seasons?**
- **According to 1 Thessalonians 5, what responsibilities do Christians have toward those who are discouraged or hurting?**
- **Tammy reminds us that we often never know the impact we have on someone else's life. How does that challenge the way you encourage others?**
- **How does trusting God's timing help us remain faithful when we cannot yet see His purpose?**

Reflection Challenge

This week, look for opportunities to encourage someone who may be quietly struggling.

Ask yourself:

- **Is there someone God has placed in my life who needs encouragement today?**
- **Have I become discouraged because God's plan looks different than my own?**
- **Can I trust that God is still working even when I don't yet understand His purpose?**

Try this:

- **Reach out to someone who has encouraged your faith and thank them for their impact.**
- **Encourage one person this week with a phone call, message, or prayer.**
- **Reflect on a past disappointment and write down how God eventually used it for good.**
- **Thank God for His faithfulness, even in seasons when His plans were not immediately clear.**

Remember

- **God often works through circumstances we do not immediately understand.**
- **A simple act of encouragement may have an eternal impact.**
- **Faithfulness today may produce fruit that we never personally witness.**
- **God can redeem painful seasons for His greater purposes.**
- **We can trust God's plan even when life takes an unexpected detour.**

Prayer

Father God,

Thank You for Your faithfulness through every season of life. When I face unexpected disappointments or setbacks, help me trust that You are still working for my good and Your glory. Teach me to encourage those who are hurting,

remembering that even small acts of kindness can have lasting impact. Strengthen my faith to keep sowing seeds of love, trusting that You will bring the harvest in Your perfect time.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

