

Detours

Matthew 1:18 ¹⁸ The birth of Jesus Christ came about this way: After his mother Mary had been engaged^[a] to Joseph, it was discovered before they came together that she was pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly.

2: ¹³ After they were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Get up! Take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. For Herod is about to search for the child to kill him." ¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and escaped to Egypt.

¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, because those who intended to kill the child are dead." ²¹ So he got up, took the child and his mother, and entered the land of Israel.

A few things about Joseph

Godly

Matt 1:19 ¹⁹ So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly.

Carpenter

Matt 13:55 "Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother called Mary, and his brothers James, Joseph,^[a] Simon, and Judas?"

Gracious

Matt 1: ¹⁹ So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly.

Thinker

What we can learn from Joseph

1. We need to meditate rather than meltdown during a detour

2. We need to consider what the Lord maybe doing in our detour

Why detour for us?

Create a better faith for us

James 1:2 Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.

Hebrews 12:11

New Living Translation (NLT)

11 No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

Create better faith for others

Phil 1:12 Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually advanced the gospel,

3. We need to choose to obey during the detours

Close:

The strength of patience hangs on our capacity to believe that God is up to something good for us in all our delays and detours.

John Piper