



## GOING DEEPER

Jan 25/26, 2020

**Title:** Beginner's Guide to Predicting Your Future; Week 4 ~ Detours to Avoid

**Teacher:** Pastor Tim

**Scripture:** 1 Kings 3 & 11

Some outcomes in life can be very accurately predicted. Consequently, there are some paths or detours we definitely want to avoid. King Solomon provides a glaring example of how someone can slide from the right path into very dangerous terrain.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. The message described the danger of leaving "wiggle room" or "loopholes" in your commitment. Leaving the commitment door open even a tiny crack often leads to much larger cracks down the road. Discuss common areas in which we tend to be 90 or 95% committed but leave ourselves just a small "out." If appropriate, apply the concept to marriage; to giving; to exercise; to quiet time spent with God. Wrestle with the very real issue of how hard it is for most of us to be 100% committed, especially in an era that has taught us to keep all our options open.
2. Which "rules" do we tend to consider to be proper for others but which we sometimes think we can take liberties with? Discuss the danger of thinking you are ever an exception to the rule.
3. How can we ensure we are being ruthless about our pre-disposed weaknesses? By definition, a temptation must be tempting to me, otherwise it wouldn't be a temptation. How can we become more honest about our own weaknesses and take steps to protect ourselves from succumbing to them?
4. How, specifically, can we be more inviting of corrective words in our lives? We live in an era where we hesitate to tell anyone hard truth, for fear we'll offend them and that they will think poorly of us. Yet, telling each other truth is an indispensable part of staying on the right road.

5. Share stories of how you have been brought back on track when you've slipped off. Celebrate God's grace that pulls us out of all kinds of ditches.

### Never Stop Praying:

- To be intentional about getting/staying on the path God is designing for us, individually and corporately, in 2020
- That we will 'raise a hallelujah' when uncertainty or storms lure us off course

I raise a hallelujah, in the presence of my enemies  
I raise a hallelujah, louder than the unbelief  
I raise a hallelujah, my weapon is a melody  
I raise a hallelujah, heaven comes to fight for me

I'm gonna sing, in the middle of the storm  
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar  
Up from the ashes, hope will arise  
Death is defeated, the King is alive!

I raise a hallelujah, with everything inside of me  
I raise a hallelujah, I will watch the darkness flee  
I raise a hallelujah, in the middle of the mystery  
I raise a hallelujah, fear you lost your hold on me!

I'm gonna sing, in the middle of the storm  
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar  
Up from the ashes, hope will arise  
Death is defeated, the King is alive!

Sing a little louder (In the presence of my enemies)  
Sing a little louder (Louder than the unbelief)  
Sing a little louder (My weapon is a melody)  
Sing a little louder (Heaven comes to fight for me)  
Sing a little louder (In the presence of my enemies)  
Sing a little louder (Louder than the unbelief)  
Sing a little louder (My weapon is a melody)  
Sing a little louder (Heaven comes to fight for me)  
Sing a little louder!

I'm gonna sing, in the middle of the storm  
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar  
Up from the ashes, hope will arise  
Death is defeated, the King is alive!