

Have you had any unexpected detours lately? We know that the wilderness is a time when things seem overwhelming, a time of testing and temptations. Wondering if we will make it through the rest of the day, must less the rest of our lives.

We know there are opportunities in the wilderness. Facing our hidden challenges, learning to trust God in a deeper and closer way.

As I ponder any wilderness journey, I ask myself this question: How can I avoid making wrong turns in the wilderness and accept the detours?

How would you define Wrong turn and detour?

Whether we enter the wilderness by our wrong decisions, from other's actions, or life itself, we know God has a plan to take us to the final destination filled with blessings.

The Promised Land journey, it should have only taken a few months. A simple trip from point a to b. Instead, it took forty years from a to c then b.

Most of those who left Egypt never entered the Promised Land God had waiting for them.

What took so long for the people of God to get to the promised land?

Read: Numbers 14:2, Exodus 15-18 Exodus 16:2-3, 17, Numbers 14:27-35, Exodus 17:7

What three things did the children of Israel do that lead to taking wrong turns?

What were they wanting?

What was the results? (Numbers 11:10-15)

How can these things destroy relationships? with God, with others, and with yourself. It's a wrong turn we can easily fall into taking us in the wrong direction.

How would you define a critical spirit?

How can we learn to see our situation as a detour with potential solutions?

How is constructive venting different from complaining or grumbling?

What is the dangers of bitterness?

Paul says that Christians should do everything without complaining and arguing (Philippians 2:14)

How can we practice this?