



Sermon Discussion Guide
Week of 12/04/2016

➤ Icebreaker:

What are your plans for Christmas? How do you do your gifting shopping?

➤ Announcements:

Invite a friend to join us at LifePoint this Christmas season. We will have lawn signs available next week if you would like to promote Christmas at LifePoint.

➤ Prayer Time:

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Week #1 Detours

Talk about a memorable road trip you've taken with your family? What did you enjoy the most- what was most challenging?

Read Matthew 1:18-24. What thoughts, feelings, and emotions can you imagine Mary and Joseph dealing with in this story?

Read Luke 2:1-7. How is the census another curve ball for this young couple? How might you have felt making a 90 mile trek pregnant and on a donkey? What questions might have gone through your mind as to God's care and provision when you're about to give birth and there is no room at the Inn? How did Joseph and Mary respond to their detours? What fears did they overcome?

Can you identify a story in the Bible where someone faced a detour? Read Genesis 6:9-14... Genesis 12:1-3,7, 16:1... Genesis 37:1-7; 26-28. How did each person respond to life's detours? What does Hebrews 11:7-11 say about where they placed their trust? How does God want us to respond to our detours?

Discuss the statement that *"even when life does not turn out as expected it can still be good."* Why is this so hard to believe on the front end of change? How did it prove true for Mary and Joseph?

> Conversational Prayer: Dear God help me...