



## **Making the Right Detours: Choosing God's Path Over Wrong Turns**

Life often presents us with choices between right and wrong paths. Just as we encounter "Road Closed" signs while driving, God places spiritual warning signs to keep us from harm and guide us toward righteousness.

## **Why Do We Need to Make Spiritual Detours?**

Sometimes we see warning signs but proceed anyway, thinking we know better. However, these spiritual "Road Closed" signs are there to protect us and keep us on the right path. We must be intentional about recognizing these warnings and making conscious decisions to take godly detours away from harmful situations.

## **What Does it Mean to Give Careful Thought to Our Path?**

Proverbs 4:26-27 instructs us to "Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways. Do not turn to the right or to the left; keep your foot from evil."

This means:

- Planning our steps intentionally
- Being disciplined in following God's path
- Making conscious decisions to avoid harmful situations
- Staying focused on righteous living

## **What Should We Detour Away From?**

- We need to make detours away from:
- Toxic relationships and friendships
- Activities that please the flesh rather than the spirit
- Unforgiveness and bitterness
- Compromise of our values
- Idolatry (putting anything before God)
- **Situations that lead to sin**

## **What Path Should We Choose Instead?**

The right path includes:

- Faith
- Love
- Hope
- Peace
- Integrity
- Wisdom
- Forgiveness

## **How Does God Help Us Stay on the Right Path?**

- While God won't force our decisions, He:
- Provides warning signs
- Gives us wisdom to make right choices
- Offers ways of escape from temptation
- Sends the Holy Spirit to guide us
- Blesses our obedience
- Strengthens us when we choose right

## **Life Application**

This week, challenge yourself to:

- Identify the "Road Closed" signs God has placed in your life
- Make conscious decisions to detour away from harmful situations
- Choose God's path even when it seems less exciting
- Trust that God's detours lead to better destinations

**Ask yourself:**

What warning signs am I currently ignoring?

What relationships or activities do I need to detour away from?

Am I truly trusting God's path for my life?

How can I be more intentional about following God's guidance?

Remember: The path God has for you may seem narrow and less exciting, but it leads to true fulfillment and eternal rewards. Make the choice today to follow His detours and trust His guidance.