

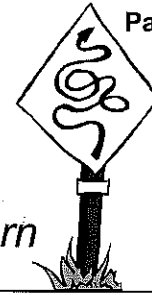
Text: 2 Samuel 12:15-31  
Topic: Suffering, Trials.  
Series: Book of 2 Samuel

# 99-45

Pacific Coast Church

December 26, 1999

Pastor Mike



# Detours

*When Life Takes an Unwanted Turn*

---

1. Be \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.15-23)

2. Never \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.24-25)

3. Get \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.26-31)



# Application Questions

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church. For more information about groups at PCC that use these questions as the basis for their weekly discussion please call the church office at (949) 489-2600.*

1. Even when we don't try, it seems that we often imagine that our lives will maintain a "steady course." But in reality, our lives are filled with twists and turns that we didn't count on. What are some of the "detours" you have experienced in your life (i.e., difficult or painful events that you didn't anticipate)?

Describe how a past "detour" was a part of God's bigger plan or important objective, but wasn't understood at the time you were experiencing it.

2. Read Psalm 139:4 & 16. What difference do these verses make to you when you think about your life's "detours"?

Not only was there nothing in your past that surprised God, there is nothing about your future that will catch him by surprise either. How does this fact change your feelings about the months and years to come?

3. Describe how a "divine spanking" (or some other painful situation) has tempted you to doubt God's love for you.

List a few unchangeable things that you can always look to as a reminder of God's love for you, especially when life events become painful or seemingly out of control.

4. How have painful situations tempted you to be passive in your Christian life (neglecting important areas of obedience) and what was the result of that kind of passivity?

