

**Being Open to Detours, Pt 1****Series: Beyond the Summit**

- A. What if, on this journey of yours, what if you have decided that a given particular summit is for the best, but God knows you actually need to go somewhere \_\_\_\_\_ instead?
- B. 3 essential ingredients for us to take God-directed detours
1. Logos – \_\_\_\_\_ (Word); it is “God’s perfect path for you”
    - a) not enough to say “God’s ways are higher than mine; rather, we must *believe* that God really does know “better” than we know; that knowledge is “Logos”
  2. Ethos – \_\_\_\_\_ of the “Other”
    - a) If you fundamentally believe that God is inherently good, gracious, loving and righteousness, then there simply is no reason to *not* trust that God has our best interests in mind whenever God is leading us in a given, especially new, direction
  3. Pathos – the nature of the \_\_\_\_\_/listener
    - a) What happens if there are blessings from God to be experienced all around you, but you go through life with a bad attitude, with false perceptions of reality, with something “stinky” on your upper lip?
    - b) Even if God is moving mountains to get us to take a detour/get our lives back on track, how will God get through to us if we have \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves off, closed our eyes and ears, to where God is trying to lead?
- C. Mt 13 – (A Prophet Without Honor)
1. Because of their hardness of heart, Jesus made no difference
- D. Luke 7 – (The faith of the Centurion)
1. His heart was completely open and yielded; Jesus performed miracles
- E. You will experience many of the blessings of God (like contentment, peace, joy, hope, love, and grace) in direct \_\_\_\_\_ to your “pathos”- to your openness and willingness to listen to, absorb, and be guided by the God who is the author of those blessings in the first place
- F. What if, because God loves you so much, God is doing all he can, in the context your \_\_\_\_\_, to help you actually find, to lead you to peace, hope, love, joy, and grace on your journey of life right now?
1. Is it likely you are not headed in the perfect direction? That God may need to send you on a detour?
  2. Are you genuinely humble and open to hear and follow when God speaks?
- G. Prov 3:5 - “Trust (open your mind, open yourself up to) in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

A. else B1. truth 2. character 3. audience 3b. closed E. proportion F. freedom