

## DETOURS AND DEAD ENDS

Exodus 15:22-27 • August 8, 2021

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### INTRODUCTION:

A. Detours and dead ends can be:

- Situational

***Then Moses led the people of Israel away from the Red Sea...out into the desert of Shur. They traveled in this desert for three days without finding any water. When they came to the oasis of Marah, the water was too bitter to drink.*** – Exodus 15:22-23

- Relational

***Then the people complained and turned against Moses. “What are we going to drink?”*** – Exodus 15:24

### I. OUR COMMON RESPONSES

A. We curse them.

***Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them.***  
– Romans 12:14

B. We rehearse them.

***Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger...*** – Ephesians 4:31

C. We nurse them.

***And don't sin by letting anger control...for anger gives a foothold to the devil.***  
— Ephesians 4:26-27

- Thrown a pity party lately?

***“You may tear out your hair in anger, but will that destroy the earth?  
Will it make the rocks tremble?”*** – Job 5:2

### II. THEN WHAT?

A. Disperse them to God.

***So, Moses cried out to the Lord for help.*** — Exodus 15:25

- Talk it out or write it out in prayer.

***Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares about you.*** — I Peter 5:7

B. Look for God to reverse it!

***...and the Lord showed him a piece of wood. Moses threw it into the water,  
and this made the water good to drink.*** — Exodus 15:25

- Our greatest shortages in life are often followed by fullness.

***After leaving Marah, the Israelites traveled on to the oasis of Elim, where they found  
twelve springs and seventy palm trees. They camped there....*** — Exodus 15:27

C. Where have you "camped" your life?

- Jesus has given us a piece of wood (The Cross) that proclaims this truth.

***And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who  
love God and are called [living] according to His purpose for them.*** – Romans 8:28

### CONCLUSION: