

## **New Conclusions About the Circumstances Around You**

April 13, 2008

God's sovereignty: He has designed my environment and circumstances. He made me for the kind of story where unlikely beginnings against all odds and seeming appearances, bring surprising outcomes.

Can I start at the top: trusting a sovereign God relating to me through grace packed circumstances and reverse engineer it down to my circumstances? God says:

1. That there is great possibility.
2. That it is possible to start today and I have all I need.
3. That some effort is required.
4. That I can't see or understand it all. That I maybe can't even know I could want some of the things that will be part of this surprising story.
5. That I will be delighted more and more as the story takes shape.

There is only one way I can be sure of the things Jesus said. I need to turn the ideas into purposeful choices which become my experience and will turn my conclusions into convictions. This is how I can become more certain of God's voice about my circumstances and their possibilities than my own perceptions or suspicions.

### **Questions for conversation and reflection:**

How do I see the circumstances of my life today?

What suspicions/perceptions make it difficult for me to believe/hope in God's great and surprising possibilities view of my circumstances?

Where is God's voice in how I see my circumstances? Where do I want God's voice?

Do I live with the awareness that I am writing a story with my choices?

What choices have I made to try things the way Jesus says? What choices do I want to make to do this? How has/will this change my story?

What have I got to lose? To gain?