

Life Principle Day Eighteen:
As children of a sovereign God,
we are never victims of our
circumstances.

Today's Reading
Mark 5:21-43



Our journey today takes us through the foggy trails of desperate faith in a sovereign God. Two situations from today's reading demonstrate that for us. One woman's desperation had been building for twelve years as she suffered with an extreme illness. She had exhausted her resources and tried every known remedy. She must have often wondered, "Why me?" Meanwhile, the daughter of Jairus, a synagogue ruler, was on the verge of death. He may have questioned, "Why her?" Both could have easily felt like they were the victims of circumstances. But God's sovereign plan often builds faith in His children in spite of circumstances.

When adversity occurs, it is important to understand that your God has purpose in His plans. When the trail becomes foggy, confidently move forward with your hand in His. Although the woman had

traveled a difficult path for twelve long years and included fruitless visits to doctors, she eventually experienced that incredible, healing encounter with Jesus. Similarly, Jairus, as a synagogue ruler, must have been a man of faith. Never was his faith so challenged as when his daughter's life was on the line. But never did his faith grow as when Jesus raised his little girl. Both of these characters turned to Jesus and placed their circumstance in His hands. Their question was not "Why?" but "What can happen if Jesus is involved in my circumstance?"

At age 15, I was placed in spinal traction for several months. I was heartbroken as my dream of a career in professional football came crashing down. Looking back I can see the transformation of my heart when I stopped asking "Why God?" and began asking "What now God?"

To listen to Dr. Stanley, click here: http://www.intouch.org/resources/life-principles-to-live-by/content/topic/victim_or_victor_life_principle

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