



Romans 4:v18-5:v5

1⁸ Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

1⁹ Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead.

²⁰ Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. ²² This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.”

²² This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” ²³ The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, ²⁴ but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

²⁵ He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

Chapter 5

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Against all hope



Illustration: Natalie Lees

God's Purpose and Promises


Start Here

$$\text{DISAPPOINTMENT} = \frac{\text{EXPECTATION}}{\text{REALITY}}$$

God's Purpose and Promises


Start Here

heart others necessary reduce without cornerstone need appreciation accompanied non-judgment sharp total eliminate strive sense misfortune interconnectedness whatever social lessen clarity

toward sustained pain sympathy feel

humanism deep simply also strong help

person emotional alleviate state oneself capacities confused

determination possible awareness feeling

lead often another

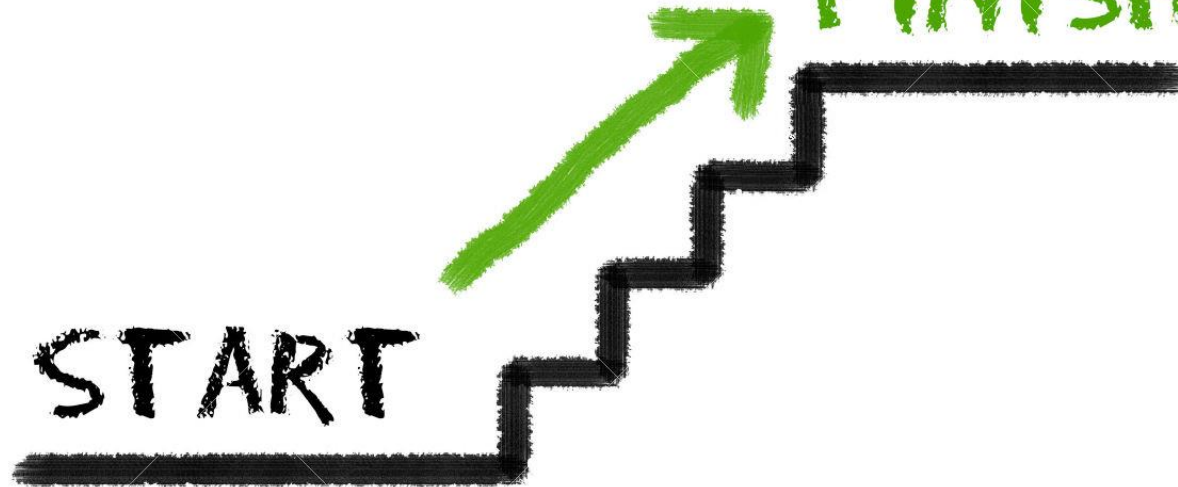
empathy

suffering

another

God delivers.

FINISH



START

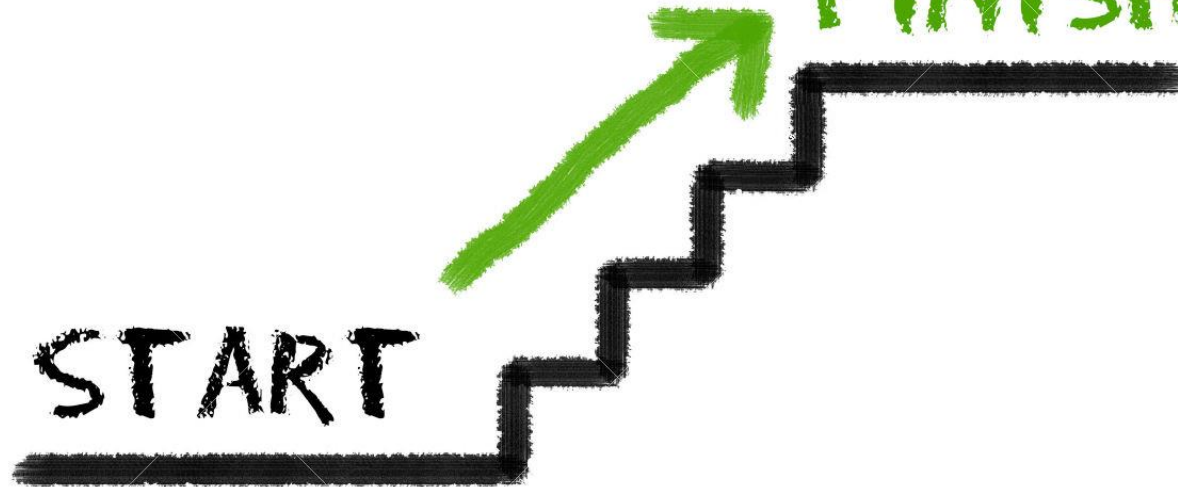
My next year's self will have some advantage over this year's, which is experience. I'm not going to waste any more time, not one more morning, on despair...

So 2016, in its best possible light, looks like the training montage in Rocky, the bit where we lost a few teeth, but learned how to take knocks; 2017 can be where that experience starts to count.

My final lesson from 2016...is to respond to the 'new normal' by asking for more, not less.

God delivers.

FINISH



START

Where do I start?

- 1. Ask for more**

Where do I start?

- 1. Ask for more**
- 2. Get back out on the dance floor**

Where do I start?

1. Ask for more

2. Get back out on the dance floor

1. Speak Hope

Bring it on!

