



Each of us has a life story, a testimony, an account of our life. Your unique, original and beautiful story isn't over! Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith – that means He's the beginning of our faith when we receive Him and He's the sustainer and finisher of our faith as we run our race.

Jeremiah 29 ¹¹ For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,' says the Lord, 'plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. AMP

Isa 55 ⁸ My plans aren't your plans, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. ⁹ Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my plans than your plans. CEB

God's plans and purposes for us are not designed to be done in our strength. His plans for us require our faith and trust in Him. He makes the impossible, possible! He sees in us qualities, attributes and possibilities we haven't dared to imagine!

Lamentations 3 ²² The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease.

²³ Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. NLT

Don't disqualify yourself from being a champion for God and His kingdom because of your past, your flaws, your shortcomings. God is bigger than all of those!

Philippians 3 ¹³ Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, **forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,**

¹⁴ I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. KJV

God is not deterred by your past. The Apostle Paul had an ugly past! He was a hater and persecutor of Christians. But God had big plans for Paul. He wasn't intimidated by Paul's past. God has big plans for your future! Will you accept the call?

Romans 8 ²⁸ **And we know that God causes ALL THINGS to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose...**

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who is against us!** NASB

God can use your good, bad, ugly and wonderful – your talents, education, training, creativity, uniqueness, personality, tenacity, flaws, hurts, traumas, fears, insufficiencies, past successes and past failures to accomplish more than you can dream or imagine! Our job is to say, YES! Here I am, send me! Bring it all to God and let him work it all for good! Let Him heal you, develop your character, prepare and equip you and watch what He does in and through you!

Ephesians 4 ²³ and be continually renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh, untarnished mental and spiritual attitude], ²⁴ and put on the new self [the regenerated and renewed nature], created in God's image, [godlike] in the righteousness and holiness of the truth **[living in a way that expresses to God your gratitude for your salvation]**. AMP

Live your life in worship, honoring Jesus by doing His will for your life – living the story He wants to tell through you. Let Him show off!

Ephesians 2 ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship [His own master work, a work of art], created in Christ Jesus [reborn from above—spiritually transformed, renewed, ready to be used] **for good works**, which God prepared [for us] beforehand [taking paths which He set], so that we would walk in them **[living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us]**. AMP

John 14 ¹² Truly, truly, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also and greater works than these he will do** because I go to the Father. NASB

1 Timothy 6 ¹⁸ Instruct them to do good, to **be rich in good works**, to be generous, willing to share [with others]. AMP

Phil 4 ¹³ **I can do all things** [which He has called me to do] **through Him who strengthens and empowers me to fulfill His purpose**—I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace. AMP

Proverbs 18 ¹⁶ A man's gift makes room for him and brings him before great men. AMPC

God's power and anointing combined with our obedience and faith brings fullness of His purposes for us.

Hebrews 13 ²⁰ Now may the God of peace [Who is the Author and the Giver of peace]... ²¹ **Strengthen (complete, perfect) and make you what you ought to be and equip you with everything good that you may carry out His will; [while He Himself] works in you and accomplishes that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ (the Messiah).** AMPC

Philippians 1 ⁶ And I am convinced and sure of this very thing, that He Who **began a good work in you will continue** until the day of Jesus Christ [right up to the time of His return], developing [that good work] and perfecting and bringing it to **full completion** in you. AMPC

Philippians 3:12-16 I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but **I've got my eye on the goal**, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. **I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back.** **So let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us.** If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision—you'll see it yet! Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it. MSG

Jesus completed His purpose on the earth to bring us into righteousness – good standing – relationship with God. Let's honor what Jesus did for us by living our lives fully for Him – completing the race God has set for each of us.

Hebrews 12 ² Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? **It means we'd better get on with it.** Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. **KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS, WHO BOTH BEGAN AND FINISHED THIS RACE WE'RE IN.** Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, **go over that story again**, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. **THAT WILL SHOOT ADRENALINE INTO YOUR SOULS!** MSG