
THE BOOK OF ROMANS pt. 2: It's Time to Stop Faking Hope

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, October 22, 2017*

To Be a Believer Is to Believe and Know That My Purpose Is to Give My Life Away for Jesus

^{15:1} **We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves.** ² Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. ³ For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me."

God's Purposes Trump My Longings and Desires

Believers Are Obligated to Work with People
and Situations That are Difficult

⁸ For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy

God Knows That If I Choose to Live This Kind of Life, I Will Struggle. But I Am to Take Courage, He Has Given Me a Way to Hold on To Hope

⁴ **For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.** ⁵ May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶ that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Solutions to Faking Hope

Endurance

"We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation." *Romans 5:3-4, NLT*

“Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.” *James 1:2-3, NLT*

When I Know the Way of God –
It Is Easier to Determine the Will of God

His Word

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction *vs4*

God's Word Was Written for Our Instruction

Faith

“May the God of hope **fill you with all joy and peace in believing**” *vs13a*

Joy and Peace Do Not Come by Changing My Circumstances,
But by Changing My Perspective

The Holy Spirit

“so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope” *vs13b*

Hope Is the Byproduct of Living a Spirit Filled
and Directed Life