**BLESSINGS COME FIRST**

 **Taken from “The Power To Bless” by Alan Wright**

**‘Faith comes from hearing the MESSAGE,**

 **and the MESSAGE is heard through the word of Christ.” (Romans 10:17)**

**THE MESSAGE IS THE GOSPEL.**

**CASTING VISIONS FOR CHILDREN’S LIVES**

 **Don’t begin with sin…**

**BLESSING is an act of grace and truth.**

**Tell children WHO THEY ARE IN CHRIST.**

**God loves FAITH…not FEAR…365 ‘FEAR NOTS’ in Scripture.**

**There is no power in THE LAW—Galatians 2:19-21**

 **Power comes from THE GOSPEL—Romans 1:16**

**JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD**

**HE CAME FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH**

**HE LIVED A PERFECT LIFE**

**HE DIED ON THE CROSS TO PAY FOR OUR SIN**

**HE WAS BURIED AND THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD**

**HE IS IN HEAVEN NOW, PREPARING A PLACE FOR YME AND YOU!**

**‘Though many of us grew up thinking,**

 **‘FIRST I SUCCEED AND THEN I’M BLESSED’, the GOSPEL reverses the order—**

**‘I CAN SUCCEED BECAUSE I’M BLESSED.’ As BLESSED people, we don’t excel in order to prove who we are—we excel because we know who we are.’ (Page 48)**

**BLESSINGS give birth to HOPE… Which then gives birth to the energy, passion, and commitment that will bring success. (Pg. 50)**

**We don’t choose how to live and then form an identity to match it. We form an identity and then live to match it. (Pg. 51)**

**In The Bible, HOPE is the blissful certainty of future BLESSEDNESS that empowers you today. (Pg.49)**

**WHEN YOU SIN, GOD CALLS YOU ‘HOLY’ (Hebrew 10:10)**

**WHEN YOU FEEL BLAND, GOD CALLS YOU ‘SALT OF THE EARTH’ (Matthew 5:13)**

**WHEN YOU’VE DONE NOTHING MAJESTIC, GOD CALLS YOU A ‘ROYAL PRIESTHOOD’ (I Peter 2:9)**

**WHEN YOU FEEL ASHAMED, GOD CALLS YOU ‘BLAMELESS’ (Ephesians 1:4)**

**I Corinthians 13:5 ‘LOVE KEEPS NO RECORDS OF WRONG’**

**YOUR PAST TROUBLES DO NOT HAVE TO DEFINE YOU,**

 **BUT THEY CAN REFINE YOU.**

**Christ died to make you acceptable.**

**Christ took the curse to make you BLESSED.**

**Keep on casting BLESSINGS—"The tongue has the power of life and death…”.**

 **Proverbs 18:21a**

**BLESSINGS take time to grow…**

**Religion says: “I messed up, my father is going to be mad at me.’**

**The Gospel says: ‘I messed up; better call DAD!” (Pg. 169)**

**CASTING VISIONS FOR YOU**

**Christ died to make you acceptable. In His Name, accept yourself. Christ took the curse to make you BLESSED. In His Name, you can Bless yourself. (Pg. 172)**

**Your troubles are not the end of your story…you are a KINTSUGI VESSEL—**

 **whose fractures are mended by the gold of God’s Grace and Truth.**

**Your story is in the GOLDEN SEAMS. (Pg. 105)**

**BLESSINGS, Jackie Pegram**