Life in Pieces! Part 5: The Sum of the Parts!

Bursts of Blessings: "Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first-fruits of all your increase; so that you will have plenty and your labors will prosper and you will burst with blessings to overflow!" **Prov 3.9,10** KJV: "barns be <u>filled</u> with plenty and your presses will <u>overflow</u> with new wine..." Fill the vats and the juice will <u>overflow</u>! We do what's natural, He meets us with the supernatural! "You do what is right, honor the Lord, and you'll have plenty... "I'll do the supernatural in response so you have plenty and can some give away... "Foolish to live abundantly without being rich in good works!" **Lk 12.16**

Sharing our "Bursts..." Making proof of God's response... Listing to make our boast in the Lord's faithfulness to our right actions! Celebrating the faithfulness of God... Which we too often forget/not celebrating. As we move into the filled, overflowing, <u>blessed-life</u>, God has for every believer! The point is to move us from faithfulness in *what is least* to faithful stewardship of what is "more!"

Unsolicited side job: \$3,000

Husband/wife salary increases: \$4,400 Salary increase and bonus: \$7,000

Lien release: \$7,642 \$20,000 first qtr. bonus!

Raise: \$1,800

God told someone to give me \$200/groceries

\$2,000 insurance savings!

From no job to new job: \$45,000

Wrote down a medical bill from \$45,000 to \$200

\$81 tip on a \$19 dollar haircut!

\$72.45 gift cards and refund!
Unexpected \$35 off two purchases!
\$1253 combined blessings!
\$560 gift from my family!
Unexpected check: \$3,400
\$375 from a dispute in 2012!

Unexpected insurance refunds: \$3,345

Self-pay Hospital bill: \$1,139 Unexpected deposit refund: \$200 \$10,000 off a new used car! \$12,320 off a "hidden" vehicle Upgraded hotel room: Priceless!

Moving into the blessed, bursting, life God has for us is the whole idea!

Busting Out: Several weeks ago I told you I would be out teaching our concepts/values! Mostly well received by pastors/leaders in AR, LA, OK and Texas... Encouraged many pastors to attend Kairos! Many to use Wednesday night format! Busting out on our group foundation in Christ! **1Cor 3.12ff 2Cor 9.6-14** Two more venues, then home! **We now have shares in the bounty of other groups/places!**

But some of the greatest "bursts" have been how things have been working here! Great group of pastors... needs! Great team of speakers... souls! Great group of laborers... service! We enjoy a very

special atmosphere here because of the Word we stand on... The Spirit of God we listen to... And the people with a mind to work!

Work Asides... Time for the next generation of laborers (leaders) to step into place... Settle the issues of significance in life... "No greater love than to lay down your life for others!" **John 15.13** "My Father loves Me because I lay down My life!" **John 10.17** "We perceive the love of God because He laid down His life for us and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers!" **John 3.16** Happy are you if know to, *and do*, serve one another!" **John 13.17**

Children and youth today are needier than ever before for adult leadership! **We're the ones called and equipped to provide them with a biblical worldview!** Some of our most precious teachers and attendants are moving out into new seasons of service... Need two for each one who transitions because our group is about to double! **Maintain the atmosphere with the Word, Spirit and superstructure of servants!**

Body Building! Ephesians 2.1ff "God made Jesus to be the head over all things to the Church, His body, made to be the fullness of Him, that overflows. Though you were once dead in sins and walked according to the desires of the prince of the power of the air, that great Spirit of disobedience, you are now quickened together with Christ and seated with Him in heavenly places according to the rich mercy of God! We are now His workmanship, created in Christ for good works ordained from the beginning. In times past you were without Christ, aliens from the community of God, separated from the promises, having no hope being without God in the world. But now in Christ we are made near to God — the separation has been removed by the blood of Christ — and we have peace with God. Being reconciled we have access to Him by the Spirit so that we are no longer strangers and foreigners but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God! We are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets and Jesus Christ himself is the Cornerstone... in whom this entire building fits together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord... in whom you are also built up together to be a sacred building for God, through the Spirit!

Sum of the Pieces! If we are ever going to know a life bursting with blessings... If ever we are going to bust out with richness on our foundation in Christ... We are going to have to take our unique "parts" and build out the Master Plan of God... We will individually have to come together in alignment under Jesus headship!

Sum of the Pieces (from the text)! We will have to start asking... "Is Jesus really **the Head of my life** or just the mask?" "Am I **seated with Him,** or fighting in the mud and slogging thru the mire of life?" "Am I **His workmanship** 'in progress' or just a real piece of work?" "Am I **in the household,** near to God, or a stranger He hardly sees?" "Am I **His Temple** or just a rental?"

Sum of the Pieces! We will have to start responding to the answers of... *Where do You want me?* Or, Am I where You placed me? *What do You want me to do?* Or, Am I doing what You've asked of me? What You created me to do? *What is it You want from me?* Or, Am I giving You what You want, or, only asking what I want from You?

Let's begin bringing the pieces together to see the bigger, more than beautiful, picture of Life!