

# "Blessings, the Clown"

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Johnny and Joey [Names changed for confidentiality] are six year old twins with huge brown eyes and long black eyelashes. Peaches, my clown partner, asked "Did you get your eyes from Walgreens?" Johnny said, "No, God gave them to us." Johnny has leukemia. His Mom told us in a week or so Joey is going to donate his blood and bone marrow for his twin brother as he is a "perfect" match.

As Peaches painted a turtle on Johnny's little cheek, he fell asleep. Joey who was sitting on Johnny's bed wanted us to paint a turtle on his cheek too. As I did this Joey noticed a little pin that I had on my apron which reads *God made clowns just for fun*. He said, "Oh my, I don't believe it. Do you mean to tell me that God made Peaches and Blessings the Clown.?" "Absolutely!" we answered. He shook his little head in wonder. Their Mom said that Joey and Johnny wanted to be clowns at one time, but some clown had frightened them. They had decided together at that time that God did not create clowns. Now their grandfather is a pastor, so they spoke with "some authority" when they said "God is my 'bestest' ever friend in this world."

When I heard that, I took out my "Blessings Shaker" that makes an "Oink, oink" sound every time you shake it. I asked Joey if he would like some "blessings." He said, "You mean "blessings" from God?" "My Blessings Shaker is full of blessings from God," so I told him to put out the palm of his hand and I would sprinkle his blessings into his hand. When I filled his hand with as many blessings as he could hold, I asked him to close it and hang on to his blessings. He sat there for a moment with his fist clinched tight, his little mind spinning. Finally he asked "What should I do with them?" "Well, what would you like to do with them?" I responded. He thought a moment, and then smiled the biggest smile and put his fist to his heart. "I will store my blessings in my heart." Well, Peaches had to turn around as she almost cried. Once Joey had placed his "blessings" in his heart, he held out the palm of his hand again and said "Blessings, since Johnny is asleep, just put his blessings in my hand." So I did with the "oink, oink, oink, oink" of the "Blessings Shaker." Then he closed his fist. Holding the "blessings" tightly, he leaned over and placed the "blessings" into Johnny's heart. "Blessings" had to turn around, 'cause little ones don't usually see their clown cry.