

= Bless Me Indeed (Jabez 's Song) =

" Bless Me Indeed (Jabez 's Song) " (sometimes called " Bless Me Indeed ") is a song by Christian rock band MercyMe . Written by the band and produced by Pete Kipley , it was released as the lead single from the band 's 2001 album *Almost There* . The song was written at the request of the band 's record label , who wanted to produce a song based on the popular book *The Prayer of Jabez* (2000) . Although the band did not want to write it at first , they eventually relented and recorded it .

Lyrically , " Bless Me Indeed " asks God for blessing , paralleling Jabez 's prayer in 1 Chronicles . It received a mixed to positive response from critics ; lead singer Bart Millard has since described it as one of the band 's worst songs . The song did not perform well at Christian radio , peaking at number 27 on the *Radio & Records* Christian AC chart , leading to initial album sales that were lower than expected .

= = Background and composition = =

The idea behind " Bless Me Indeed (Jabez 's Song) " came from MercyMe 's record label , INO Records , who wanted to capitalize off the success of Bruce Wilkinson 's popular book *The Prayer of Jabez* (2000) . According to lead singer Bart Millard , the label figured that the book could introduce the band and set up a successful career . Although the band did not want to write the song , they eventually relented . " Bless Me Indeed (Jabez 's Song) " was written by Jim Bryson , Nathan Cochran , Bart Millard , Mike Scheuchzer , and Robby Shaffer - all five members of MercyMe at the time . Like the rest of *Almost There* , it was recorded at Ivy Park , The Indigo Room , Paradise Sound , and IBC Studios . Kipley produced and programmed the song , while Skye McCaskey and Julian Kindred engineered it . Salvo mixed the song . String instruments were recorded by the Paltrow Performance Group .

" Bless Me Indeed (Jabez 's Song) " has a length of four minutes and fourteen seconds . According to the sheet music published by Musicnotes.com , it is in set common time in the key of C major and has a tempo of 108 beats per minute . Bart Millard 's vocal range in the song spans from the low note of G ² 4 to the high note of F ³ 5 . The song lyrically relates to the Biblical figure Jabez . In 1 Chronicles 4 : 10 , Jabez requests that God bless him by expanding his territory and keeping him free from evil , a request God accepts . In " Bless Me Indeed (Jabez 's Song) " , Millard requests the same from God .

= = Reception = =

" Bless Me Indeed " received a mixed to positive response from critics . Steve Losey of AllMusic selected it as a ' track pick ' . The J Man of Crosswalk.com described it as a " winner " , and appreciated that it was based on *The Prayer of Jabez* . In Amazon.com 's product description of *Almost There* , the reviewer stated the track " is a glimmer of brilliance where the group brings it all together " . However , Russ Breimeier of Christianity Today described the song as " [not] particularly remarkable " , preferring another song based on Jabez , According to John 's " Song of Jabez " . In an interview in 2014 , Millard stated that it is one of " one of the worst songs we 've ever done " .

= = Chart performance = =

" Bless Me Indeed " was released as the first single from *Almost There* . Although the label anticipated the song 's connection with *The Prayer of Jaebz* would make it a success , it performed poorly on Christian radio . The song debuted at number 29 on the *Radio & Records* Christian AC chart for the week of August 31 , 2001 . The following week , it advanced to its peak of number 27 . The song spent four weeks on the chart before dropping off . The poor performance of the song at radio led to initial album sales that were lower than anticipated , although the album would later be

certified double platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) following the success of the album 's second single , " I Can Only Imagine " .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits from the album liner notes)

= = Charts = =