

# Calvary Family News

## March 2026

### Jesus Loves Me This I Know

I was at the Senior Center the other day serving lunch like we do every month (A quick "Thank You" to everyone who helps serve). People know I'm "the pastor" because I introduce myself and invite everyone to Community Dinner and Celebrate Recovery before we say the Pledge of Allegiance and pray before lunch.

So, a guy came up to me, kind of giggled and asked "do you sing 'Jesus Love Me' at your church?" That got me thinking so I looked it up. Did you know there are five verses to "Jesus Loves Me?" And it's really theologically sound. Here it is.

#### Jesus Love Me

1 Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me, this I know, as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me." [Refrain]

3 Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,  
wanting as a friend to give, light and love to all who live. [Refrain]

4 Jesus loves me he who died, heaven's gate to open wide.  
He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. [Refrain]

5 Jesus loves me! He will stay, Close beside me all the way;  
Thou hast bled and died for me, I will henceforth live for Thee. [Refrain]

As we live in these crazy and fearful and uncertain times, I think it is good to be reminded of the truth that Jesus loves you and me. One of the last things Jesus told His apostles (and us) before He went to the cross was this.

*33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."  
John 16:33*

Jesus never said that our lives would be trouble-free or anywhere near that. He did, however, promise that in Him we will find mercy, grace, peace, and love. That is why we can trust Him in all situations, and have joy in singing a simple song about the love of Jesus.

In His Love,  
Pastor Karl

## Does Jesus Love Me?

### Keith Evans

It is a question that many believers have asked. It is often on the mind of the downcast and discouraged. “Does Jesus love me?” It may be a nagging doubt or an agonizing cry of the heart—possibly quite similar to *Psalm 22:1*. “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” sounds much like, “God, do you really love me?” While this may be a common experience for the Christian, we must look to the not-very-common answer. In other words, we need the biblically satisfying solution to such deep longing.

To arrive there, we begin where the Scriptures begin, and not with our own subjective experience. We so easily look to ourselves for the answer: “Do I feel loved? Am I really all that lovable? Have I obeyed Jesus enough that He would love me?” But all these subjective attempts at comfort are no comfort at all. Who among us has ever-steady emotions? Who, biblically speaking, is lovable in their own right? Who could ever obey enough to be acceptable in their own righteousness before a holy God? The Scriptures are clear on these points: no one.

No, the solution to this fundamental question is not in ourselves. Rather, it is in the person and work of Jesus. When the Scriptures encourage us with the reality of Christ’s love for His people, they always look to Him and never to us.

“But God proves His love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (*Rom. 5:8*, BSB). Don’t miss how that verse begins: “God proves his love for us.” How is it that we know God loves us? He sent Christ to save us even when we were yet His enemies. Elsewhere, the Apostle John argues the exact same way: “In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins” (*1 John 4:10*). When we doubt the love of God in our lives, we must look to what Christ has objectively done for us, in that He came, He pursued, He sought us, He saved. After all, this was the very reason Christ came into the world: to seek and to save His people (*Luke 19:10*).

This type of love, a love that originates entirely in God and not in our own loveliness, is at the heart of biblical “unconditional love,” or agape love. God’s perfect love flows from Him and is entirely of Him, as He places it upon us. While we are devoid of everything lovable, excellent, praiseworthy, or beautiful, God lavishes His love upon us. He did this “in order to make known the riches of His glory,” as *Romans 9:15–23* makes clear. The love that God shows us, now His children in Christ, is entirely free and gracious, flowing from Him to us, not because of us, but entirely because of Him.

Once we can comprehend this type of love, it is a glorious and encouraging reality. Human love is so often grounded in the object of our love, which is why people speak of “falling in and out of love.” What makes our hearts sing one day leaves us disappointed and despairing the next. We can be so fickle. Then we take our ever-changing, always-conditional love, and read our humanness back into God. We think He loves like we love. May it never be. The unmerited love that God displays toward us is of an entirely different kind. Listen to how *Ephesians 1* describes it: “He chose us . . . before the foundation of the world . . . in love . . . according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved” (*Eph. 1:4–6*). He chose us in Christ. He perfectly loves Jesus, described here as “the Beloved.” That is who Christ is—the loved one of God. And out of Himself, He loves us just as He loves Christ, and this from all eternity. Could there be any greater news?

If ever there is a question about whether God loves us, the biblical solution is not to look to ourselves, our love, or our faithfulness. Instead, we are called to look at the objective reality of what God has done for us in Christ. We are to ground our certainty and assurance of His love in who He is and what He has done—not in ourselves, which is ever-shifting sand.

As biblical theologian Geerhardus Vos famously said, “The best proof that He will never cease to love us” is “that He never began.” Jesus has loved us from all eternity. He has always and will always love His people—His sheep—His precious chosen ones. As the children’s song so simply and profoundly puts it, “Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.” May this be all the answer to the question “Does Jesus love me?” we ever need. The answer, in Christ, is “yes.”

(Submitted by F.S.)



## Work Day March 21st

Let there be (new) lights. That’s right, we are replacing all the light bulbs in the sanctuary. That may sound easy, but because the ceiling is so high we need to put up scaffolding to reach them. And to do that we need to temporarily move some of the pews. So, it’s going to take some time and people to get it accomplished so we need help. That means Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be having a church work day. We’ll start with breakfast at 8:00 am and then get to work after that. If there are more folks than we need for the light project, there are plenty of other things to do to spruce things up around the church building. As they say, “many hands make light work.” KW



**April Newsletter**  
items will need to be to the office on/by March 30<sup>th</sup>, pretty please. Thanks very much for your help, I could not do it without Your help!



*March Birthdays*

9	Terrie Evarts
15	Tamera Pierce
17	Ezra Rosin
28	Ron Platisha
29	Carlin Smith



# March

# 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS</p> <p>9AM Church Body Prayer</p> <p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>Camp Elkanah Shares</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6pm Ladies' Bible Study</p> <p>6pm Men's Bible Study</p> <p>7:07pm YoungLife @ BMS</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5-6pm Community Dinner—<b>Chicken! Nuggets &amp; Rice!</b></p> <p>6pm Celebrate Recovery</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9AM Church Body Prayer</p> <p>10 AM Worship</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6pm Ladies' Bible Study</p> <p>6pm Men's Bible Study</p> <p>7:07pm YoungLife @ BMS</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5-6pm Community Dinner—<b>Breakfast Casserole!</b></p> <p>6pm Celebrate Recovery</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p><b>8am Breakfast in Browning then Church Work Day!</b></p>
<p>22</p> <p>9AM Church Body Prayer</p> <p>10 AM Worship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6pm Ladies' Bible Study</p> <p>6pm Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5-6pm Community Dinner—<b>KFC Bowls!</b></p> <p>6pm Celebrate Recovery</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p><b>Psalm Sunday</b></p> <p>9AM Church Body Prayer</p> <p>10 AM Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6pm Ladies' Bible Study</p> <p>6pm Men's Bible Study</p> <p>7:07pm YoungLife @ Missouri Flat Grange</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5-6pm Community Dinner—<b>Chili/Hot Dogs!</b></p> <p>6pm Celebrate Recovery</p>	<p>3</p> <p><b>Good Friday</b></p> <p><b>9am Ladies' First Friday Breakfast</b></p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p><b>Easter Sunday</b></p> <p>9AM Church Body Prayer</p> <p>10 AM Worship</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6pm Ladies' Bible Study</p> <p>6pm Men's Bible Study</p> <p>7:07pm YoungLife @ Missouri Flat Grange</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5-6pm Community Dinner—<b>Cooks' Choice!</b></p> <p>6 pm Celebrate Recovery!</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>