

I Know Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, this I know-

because I am cared for and loved, and I am treated with gentleness and kindness.

Jesus loves me, this I know-

because I am decently clothed, and nutritiously fed, and because the adults who care for me see to it that I get good rest and good exercise and live in a home that's safe- where my health and my security are important.

Jesus loves me, this I know-

because the adults in my life provide me with clear and age-appropriate expectations for my behavior and consistently and fairly help me grow to be a self-disciplined adult.

Jesus loves me, this I know-

because the adults around me remind those who govern and those who lead to pay attention to the children who can't speak-up for themselves, but who frequently pay for the sins of their parents.

Jesus loves me, this I know-

because the grown-ups around me encourage my curiosity, and read to me and ask me questions about what I am learning. They encourage me to do my best in school, and get me help when I don't understand something and take the time I need to really learn a subject and to succeed.

Jesus loves me, this I know-

because when I make mistakes or do something stupid or have waaaaaay too much energy just when they are the most weary, they still have patience with me and they set me straight without putting me down.

Jesus loves me, this I know-

because the people I love, love you, O God, and treat all of your creatures and all of your children and all of your creation with appreciation and awe.

Jesus loves me, this I know-

because the adults in my life have introduced me to you, not only here on Sundays in worship and Sunday School, but in how they welcome me and care about me and about all the children of the world every day.

God of all Children,

Thank you for the gift every child is to the world.

Forgive us for every single time we have failed any of your children, ever, in whatever way.

Inspire us and guide us, strengthen us and fortify us

To be your protective, loving hands reaching out until every child everywhere has the opportunity to know by experience that YOU are LOVE.

Amen.

Rebecca Z. McNeil