

LENT: JESUS LOVES ME

April 12, 2025

Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week.

Luke 23:39-43

Memory Verse

³⁸ I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love—not life or death, not angels or spirits, not the present or the future, ³⁹ and not powers above or powers below. Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Romans 8:38-39



CASEY'S DAY

written by Ron Vandenburg
illustrated by Chad Thompson



"Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so..." Do those words sound familiar? We sing about Jesus' love and read about it in the Bible. Jesus showed love every moment of his life through his actions and his words. He showed the most incredible love by sacrificing himself on the cross. Even *while* he was dying on the cross, he showed love.

When soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross, he prayed for those who were hurting him. He said, "Father, forgive these people. They don't know what they're doing." Even in his extreme suffering, he chose to show love through forgiveness.

Two criminals were put to death on crosses with Jesus, one on either side of him. One of them mocked Jesus. He said, "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and save us!" Jesus could have chosen to climb off the cross and stop his suffering, but he decided to stay on the cross *because he loves us*.

The second criminal questioned why the first criminal would mock Jesus if he feared God. They had committed crimes and were getting punished, but the second criminal knew that Jesus hadn't done anything wrong. He turned to Jesus and confessed his belief that Jesus was the Messiah by saying, "Remember me when you come into power." And Jesus, experiencing the most terrible pain, gave him a loving promise. That day, after the criminal died, he would be with Jesus in paradise.

When we believe in Jesus and accept him in our hearts, we share that same hope that someday we will be with him in paradise. Jesus died for us. We won't have to fear death, sickness, or sadness because everything wrong will be made right again. And until then, we can be joyful because Jesus' love is always with us. *Nothing* can separate us from his love!

Prayer

Jesus, thank you for showing me love by dying on the cross. Please help me remember the sacrifice you made and be thankful every day. Thank you that I can have hope and joy forever because of you. Amen.

written by Areo Keller-Donahue

<https://kidscorner.net/devotions/lent-jesus-loves-me>
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