

THE BIG HUG

After the February, 2009 service at Sky View nursing home called Scripture and Prayer with Verna and Friends, a poem began to form in my mind on the delightful theme of love. Eventually it became the song I called “Jesus Loves Me – Sky View Version.” The connection between the children’s song and mine, which is meant for older people, is mainly the tune. As I read the words or sing them in my mind, I see so much mutual response between an individual and the Lord Jesus that it reminds me of a big hug. Listen to verse 1:

1. Jesus died upon the cross, Saving me from lasting loss.
Awesome grace has captured me, Paid my debt, and set me free.

I call this verse the hug of *salvation*. Do you remember when God, in the person of Jesus, stretched out his welcoming arms toward you and you ran into them and found your sins forgiven? What a hug! Here is verse 2:

2. Jesus is my valentine – I am his and he is mine.
Jesus loves me, that’s his part; I love him with all my heart.

I call this the hug of *devotion*. It is so full of love, joy and delight! Confidence and assurance are there, too. Love is eternal! And now, verse 3:

3. Jesus loves me as I age, And life’s billows ’round me rage.
He will love me when I die; I will live with him on high.

This is the hug of *appreciation*. How thankful we should be for the constant love of God in our lives through the years, especially in the hard times! That love will take us Home; we have nothing to fear.

Try singing the song to the tune of Jesus Loves Me (music on page 2), and as you do, remember the big hug!

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Verna Kwiatkowski

www.vernakwiatkowski.com

The Big Hug

Jesus Loves Me - Sky View Version

We love because he first loved us. — 1 John 4:19

Verna Kwiatkowski
Chorus by Anna B. Warner

JESUS LOVES ME
William B. Bradbury

1. Je - sus died up - on the cross, sav - ing me from last-ing loss.
2. Je - sus is my val - en - tine: I am his and he is mine.
3. Je - sus loves me as I age, and life's bil-lows 'round me rage.

1. Awe-some grace has cap-tured me, paid my debt, and set me free.
2. Je - sus loves me, that's his part; I love him with all my heart.
3. He will love me when I die; I will live with him on high.

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.