**“Jesus loves me”**

 **a meditation**

“That phrase is so simple that a 3 year old can understand it,

but its implications are so far reaching that they challenge international finance ministers”

**Who am I ?**

 Prof. T.F.Torrance.

 People are searching for identity beneath the image!

The message of the Christian faith is that our identity is to be found in Christ - we matter to God!

“Jesus … “ not a myth, example or ethic, but a living and personal God made known in Jesus.

“… loves ….” not mere erratic emotion, but costly as shown on

 the cross for “God so loved the world that He gave His only Son” John 3.16

“…. me” the Christian faith is not an alien imposition,

 but the God Who made us

 enabling us to be the people we were always meant to be,

 before sin contaminated and we became dependent on the image.

The writer of Ecclesiastes experimented with all kinds of lifestyles,

 all of which turned out to be empty,

He came to realise “God had placed eternity in the hearts of man” (Ec 3)

 “In Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,

 and your own completeness is only realised in Him.” Col.2.

 “You have made us for Yourself

 and our hearts are restless ’til they find their rest in You”.

 St.Augustine

As we take time to meditate ….

….. consider the difference it makes to know that we are valuable to God

 day by day

 and for eternity !

…. consider how we may help other people realise that they are valuable to God.

 for being a Christian is not an alien imposition

 but God placing a lasting value on our lives - to ignore which is to devalue our own lives.

… for young folk wondering what to make of their lives

 and are looking for some secure basis and lasting meaning for their lives.

… and for older folk who may enjoy the version on the next page of

 “Jesus loves me” for seniors

(Action point - share page 2 with someone this week! )

Jesus loves me, this I know

Though my hair is white as snow

Though my sight is growing dim

Still He bids me trust in him.(CHORUS)

 YES, JESUS LOVES ME. YES, JESUS LOVES ME.

 YES, JESUS LOVES ME. THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

Though my steps are oh, so slow.

With my hand in His I'll go

On through life, let come what may

He'll be there to lead the way. (CHORUS)

Though I am no longer young,

I have much which He's begun

Let me serve Christ with a smile.

Go with other's the "extra mile”. (CHORUS)

When the nights are dark and long,

In my heart He puts a song,

Telling me in words so clear,

"Have not fear, for I am near." (CHORUS)

When my work on earth is done,

And life's victories have been won

He will take me home above, T

hen I'll understand his love.