

What Jesus means to me.

Following a service in August in which I raised this question, I was asked to share some thoughts with you.

Thanks to the example of my parents & their encouragement the Church has played a significant place in my life from a young age and I grew up in Merewether Central Methodist Church which was a vigorous Church with active Youth Groups. As a result, in my mid-teens, I made a commitment, without any dramatic event, to follow Jesus which has continued over all the years.

Not that it has always been easy – like everyone else there have been highs and lows, challenges and questions, many failures on my part when I've disappointed myself and tried God's patience.

I don't pretend to know everything about the Christian life and I confess there are things in the Bible which I don't understand, however I am thankful for what I do know which is sufficient for me.

I have learned that God is so great and awesome that He is beyond my comprehension but Jesus tells me that not only is God majestic and powerful but He is our Heavenly Father who loves us with an unchanging love from which nothing can ever separate us.

Jesus promise to His disciples, which includes us, "I am with you always" and my experience tells me that what He promised is true and so every day I ask Him to walk with me and show me what He wants me to do and help me to do it and at the end of the day I thank Him for His help and tell Him I'm sorry for the things I've messed up. Does this sound too simple? Of course there's much more to the Christian life but in essence this is what has become important to me over the years and helped me through its varied experiences.

The Christian life is ultimately a life of faith for it doesn't matter how learned or clever we are we eventually reach a point where, in simple faith, we put our trust in God's promises, believe them to be true and act accordingly.

Bill Willis