

## Kindness

Lord,  
during those amazing three years,  
you were so kind.

When you saw that funny little man, up a tree,  
you noticed him,  
you took time to be with him.  
You were so kind.

Then the woman you met by the well,  
you talked, you listened,  
you respected her opinion, engaged with her.  
You were so kind.  
And on the cross,  
to those hanging beside you, you were patient,  
and you let one of them minister to you.  
Then you remembered your mother,  
even spoke softly of those who were hurting you.  
You were so kind.

You even took time and space to be kind to yourself.

When did we let hard love take over?  
When did we allow rules to dominate?  
When did we start to think that correcting people  
was more important than loving them?  
When did we become too busy, too important,  
to let others show their love for us.  
When did we forget about kindness?

Lord,  
If I have one prayer for myself,  
it is that you help me be more kind.  
To show it through giving my time, my ears, my respect,  
and by making space for others to show kindness to me.  
Help me to reflect the gentle beauty of your kindness  
in how I live each day, with each person I meet.