

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Reflections by Jenny Hawke

9. TEARS

As he continued his journey Jesus came across some women – perhaps his mother and her friends, and others who had followed him. They were weeping as they watched him struggle. But he said to them “Do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and your children.” He knew that there were times of terrible suffering coming their way.

In the middle of his own terrible pain there was a moment of compassion, shared between Jesus and the women. Sometimes, even when we are hurting, we can share in the hurting of others.

‘And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”’ Luke 23v 27-31

I started the painting with the vision of nothing else but tears, like rain dripping down on a glass. But then I saw a horizon through the tears. Whilst Jesus was carrying his cross, suffering beyond measure, the whole of creation wept. Not just the women, but the world as we know it broke its heart. The horizon is blurred but there is still the path ahead that Jesus must take. Jenny Hawke

When was the last time you cried yourself? Did anyone help you?



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TEARS

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