

## *Station 7: Jesus Speaks with the Women of Jerusalem*

### **READ**

*A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' then they will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?" (Luke 23: 27-31)*

### **REFLECT**

"Jesus wasn't a rebel leader; he wasn't dry wood, timber ready for burning. On the contrary, he was green wood: his mission was about peace and repentance, about God's reconciling kingdom for Israel and the nations. But, he is saying, if they are even doing this to him, what will they do when Jerusalem is filled with young hotheads, firebrands eager to do anything they can to create violence and mayhem? If the Romans crucify the Prince of Peace, what will they do with genuine warlords? – N.T. Wright

This is a dark saying from Jesus but his point is important. The women are weeping for him but if Israel doesn't repent and change then the times will get worse. Violence and hatred only beget more violence and hatred. When have we allowed anger and hatred to lead our way instead of Christ? In what ways are we doing so even now?

### **ACTION**

Take the tissue paper and write down a judgement you have made in the past or are continuing to make. Take that paper and stir it in the water until it dissolves. Take this time to repent of that judgement and know that it is forgiven by Christ.