

## Because We Are Yours

Loving God,  
I did not know you,  
but I was yours.  
And they do not know me,  
and I do not know them.  
But they are mine,  
and I am theirs.

Let no chasm, no river, no drought or storm,  
No war, no exodus, no border, natural or constructed,  
No human device  
Come between us  
Or halt the love that burns within me,  
The grace that flows from you.

Let me think on no man  
    unless I think joyful thoughts of brotherhood.  
Let me think on no woman  
    unless I think tender thoughts of sisterhood.  
Friend and stranger,  
ally and enemy,  
brothers,  
sisters.

They are mine,  
and I am theirs,  
because we are yours.

~ prayer by Catholic Relief Services  
~ photos by Laurie Roche

