

KINDLING STICKS

Once there was a wonderful father.  
The Father gathered all of his sons  
He showed them a bundle of kindling sticks  
And gave each a single one  
He said, "See how easily broken is a single piece of wood."  
They heard every word he had spoken,  
But none of them understood.

Then the father in all of his wisdom,  
Spoke once again to his sons  
He showed them a bundle of kindling sticks  
And gave each of them a single one  
He said, "Tie all the pieces together and now break them if you can."  
But the kindling couldn't be broken by the hands of the strongest man.

And I, I am my brother's keeper  
And my life lies in my sister's hands  
We must watch over each other  
As the Lord our God commands.

God is the all giving Father; We are his daughters and sons  
Life is a bundle of kindling sticks, and we each have a single one  
Now you know how easily broken is the body of muscle and bone  
But we share a life in the body of christ; None of us stands alone.

And I, I am my brother's keeper and  
And my life lies in the palm of my sister's hands  
We must watch over each other  
As the Lord our God commands.

-Jamie Rickert