

# Jammin' with the Wisdom of Jesus

Some Notes for the Reflection on April 26, 2017



I was fascinated this week  
by a posting on Facebook  
about Pixar's approach to story-telling.

In summary, it reads  
be emotional, be specific, and be universal.

Jazz and Jesus have a lot in common  
when it comes to stories:

- stories convey meaning in the richest of ways;
- the meaning of the stories comes back to love;
- love is the power that makes you a participant in the story;
  - in that love, you find your dignity and worth  
as both receiver and giver

This summer, there are four collaborating churches  
offering 3 week-long summer camps  
based on Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan.  
One of the most emotional, specific, and universal  
stories in the Bible.

And it's focused on the Bible's chord chart –  
love God, love neighbor, and love self.

We want to give kids in grades 1-6  
an opportunity explore how to be good neighbours  
in a multi-faith, multi-cultural urban environment.

Not sure whether we'll be able to work much jazz in,  
but it will be emotional, specific, and universal  
in its influence among these kids  
and in their circles of influence.

## The Brentwood Manifesto of the Christian Faith

### *How We See God, the World, Humanity, and the Future*

*In the beginning, God created the world  
and delighted in its diversity and development.  
God created human beings  
and nourished them to flourish in blessing all of creation.*

*But humanity rebelled, rejecting the limits of their power.  
Their rebellion against God's vision of justice, peace, and joy  
brought tyranny, suffering, and death.*

*God never tired of calling humanity home  
to work in common to cultivate the well-being of the world.  
Through the law and the prophets,  
God's Spirit invited love of God, love of others, and love of self  
as the empowering energy for engaging in this mission.*

*In a unique and decisive act of reconciliation and revelation,  
God overcame our alienation and loneliness.  
God took flesh and dwelt among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
In the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ,  
the creation is restored to its original purpose.  
God continues to craft the completion of this redemption.*

*Through the church universal, visible and invisible,  
the Holy Spirit empowers people  
to participate consciously in their reconciliation  
through worship, learning, fellowship, and service.*

*By God's grace in Jesus Christ through the work of the Spirit,  
we know what it is to be loved and to love  
amidst all the problems of the world.  
We are equipped and sent to sow seeds of God's SHALOM  
in all of our circles of influence.*

*In the end, God's love, healing, and forgiveness  
will transform heaven and earth  
and bring justice, peace, and joy to full realization.*