

# Jammin' with the Wisdom of Jesus

Some Notes for the Reflection on July 12, 2017



Great composition by bass master, Dave Holland.  
Love the title, "Looking Up."

In a couple of clips of Holland playing this piece,  
there is this wonderful smile  
that flows across his face from time to time.  
Looking up, for him, seems to bring great gladness.  
I got the same feel from the JAB Trio this evening.

When I think about the wisdom of Jesus  
in relationship to this title and how it is played,  
I think about looking up to the energy of love  
that God inspires into us and through us.  
It's not our energy.  
It's God's.

We can ignore it or we can block it.  
But we cannot destroy it.  
It is there and it will find a way into us  
and find a way to draw us into a friendship with Jesus  
to enhance the power of this love  
as it infects the world.

I remember reading an article by Dave Holland  
about his days with Miles Davis.

One of the things he appreciated about Miles  
was that he would insist that Dave be Dave.  
He wanted Dave to play his best as Dave Holland,  
then play above that.

Maybe that's what Holland means by 'Looking Up.'  
Look up to your best, then look above that,  
and then bring that to the flow of God's love.

## 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.*