

Jammin' with the Wisdom of Jesus

Some Notes for the Reflection on June 28, 2017



I never really thought of God throwing his love away
until Karen sent me the lyrics to 'Throw It Away.'
Great rendition of the song, folks!
But I think it's a wonderful idea to play with.

We are great fans of Jesus' story of the prodigal son
here at Brentwood.
Quick summary – kid wants his inheritance,
gets it, blows it,
comes to himself,
goes home to beg for a servant's job,
and gets welcomed back with a lavish party.
Some say it should really be called
the story of the profligate or lavish father.

Like the lyrics say,
"Throw it away, you can throw it away.
Give your love, live your life, each and every day."

That's how Jesus sees God.
A father who gives love every day to enhance life.
The details of how we see Jesus' God here at Brentwood
is summarized on the back of these notes
in the Brentwood Manifesto.

Karen and Budge are going to finish our evening off
with Gerry Neiwood's 'Joy.'
It will give you a wonderful feel
for how this love of God Jesus knew so deeply
keeps your hands wide open, letting the sunshine through.

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.*

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