

Universal Peace Federation Autumn Retreat

Robin Marsh
November 22, 2015



Cleeve House UPF Retreat Universal #Peace Federation (UPF) UK held its Autumn Retreat in Cleeve House, Wiltshire this weekend. Presentations included 'Universal Values as a Foundation for World Peace', 'Peace in the Family and Society' and 'The Cause and Resolution of Conflict' by Tim Miller and other talks to understand the founding vision of the Universal Peace Federation.



'I wish I had been taught this years ago. I would not have done the mistakes I have made.' one participant commented. Others said they were inspired by the activities of UPF in support of many human rights issues. One said that the wide range of partners that the UK chapter of UPF work with was impressive. Tim Miller, Margaret Ali, Patricia Earle, Carlo and Barbara Zaccarelli and Robin Marsh made presentations during the weekend. The Interfaith Tim Miller Universal Values Consortium supporting an Integration through Learning and Service project was described, in the last session of the weekend, by Mr Baldev Singh Bains. On Sunday morning also the vision of the Founders of UPF, Father and Mother

Moon, was explained.

Other major themes included the Inter-religious Council that Father Moon proposed for a reformed United Nations in the founding speeches of the UPF. The Council would add religious wisdom to the political decision making process of the UN. The importance of marriage and family was a major theme. Patricia Earle shared about her experience promoting the rededication of marriage. Tim Miller shared a number of significant points about how to improve the health of relationships, marriage and family.

Slideshare Powerpoint - Universal Values as a Foundation for World Peace

Slideshare Powerpoint - The Cause and Resolution of Conflict



The Cause and Resolution of Conflict





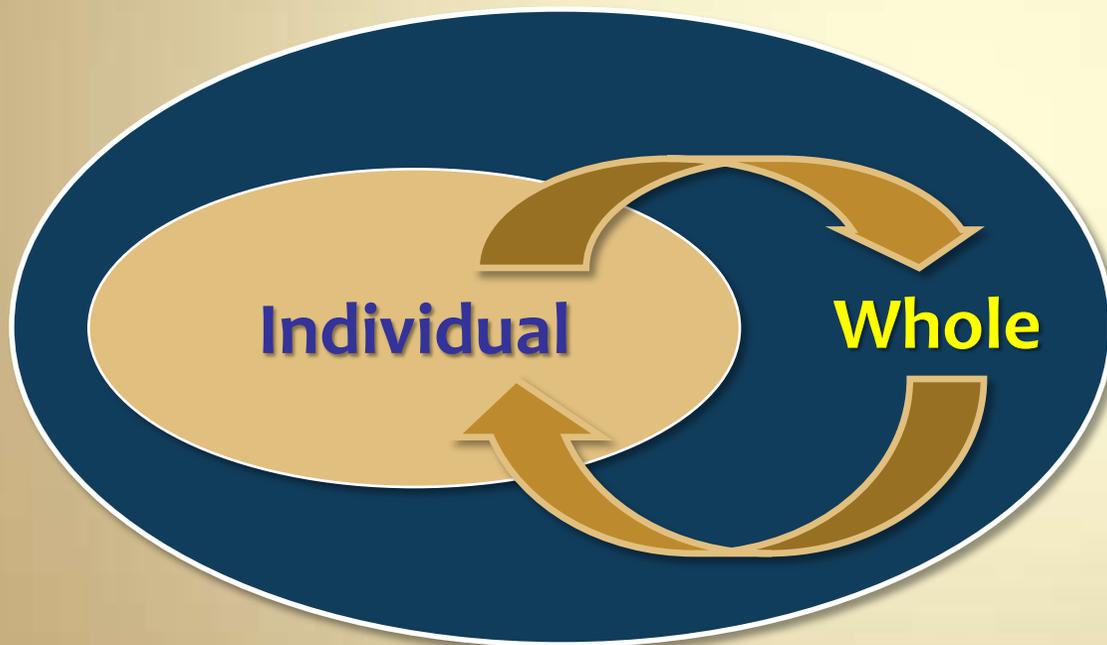
Universal Peace Federation

The Cause and Resolution of Conflict

Understanding the Root Cause of Conflict

Peace – Living for the sake of others

- Living for the sake of others – pair system
- I exist to benefit the whole – higher purpose



The Individual
Lives for the Whole

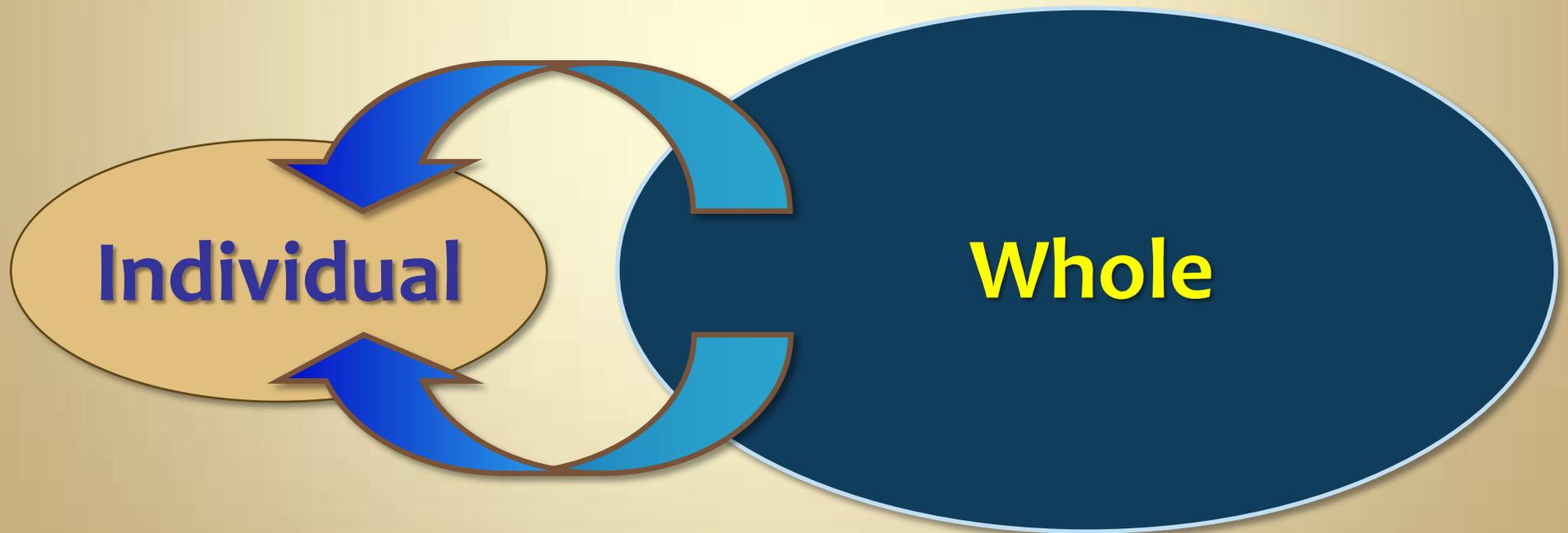
The Whole supports
the Individual

Reality is tragically different – a world of conflict



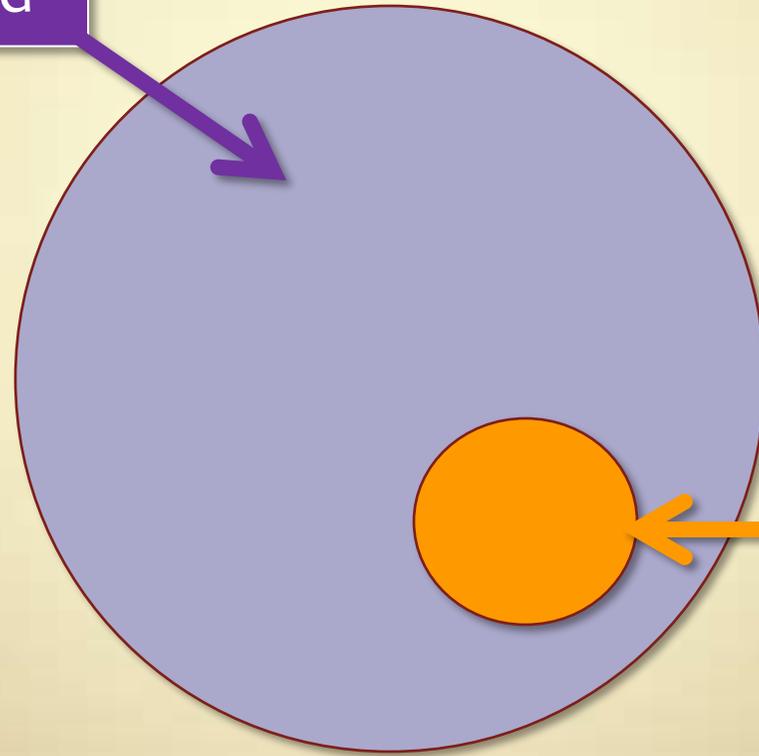
The Cause of Conflicts

- 'Self'- centred, not higher purpose - centred
- Others exist for my benefit
- Diminish the value of the whole



The reality of Human Nature

Selfish Nature
Well-developed



Original
Nature
Undeveloped

The Conflicted Self



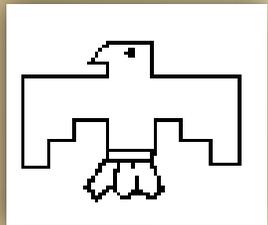
Whoever proclaims himself good , know, goodness approaches him not.

Sikhism Adi Granth, Gauri Sukhmani 12



The mind is two-fold: the pure and also the impure.

Hinduism, Maitri Upanishad 6.34



Every person has both a bad heart and good heart.

Native American Religions, Mohawk Tradition



I do not do the good that I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.

Christianity, Romans 7.15

Our thoughts and actions determine our nature



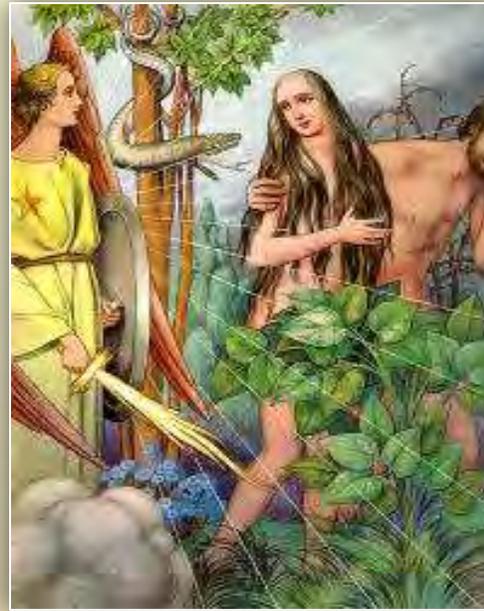
Evil or selfish
thoughts, words
and actions
Immediate
'body' dominated

Unselfish
thoughts, words
and actions
Eternal
Mind led

There is a battle in the mind of each person which manifests as conflict in the family, society and world

The Origin of Conflict – clues in traditional stories

- Not intended as scientific history
- Intuition about the human condition
- Religious traditions believed to be revealed from a divine source

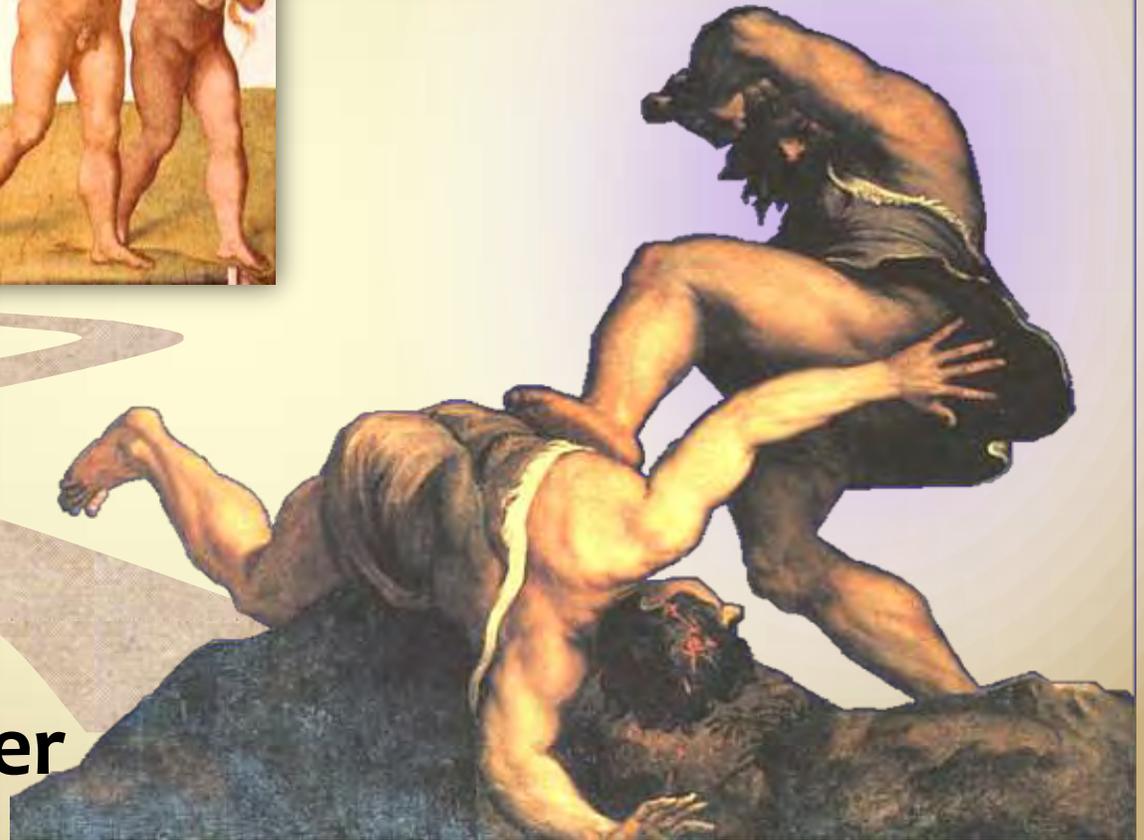


Conflict in the Family



**Adam and Eve:
illicit love**

**Cain and Abel:
the first murder**



The impact of sexual immorality



It is better to die than to indulge in partaking of forbidden lustful pleasure.

Uttarangasutram 22.42



The man who goes to the wife of another ... digs up the very roots of life.

Dhammapada 18.247



Do not come near adultery: for it is a shameful deed and evil, opening the road to other evils. *Qur'an 17.32*



Flee from sexual immorality. ... he who sins sexually sins against his own body.

1 Corinthians 6.18

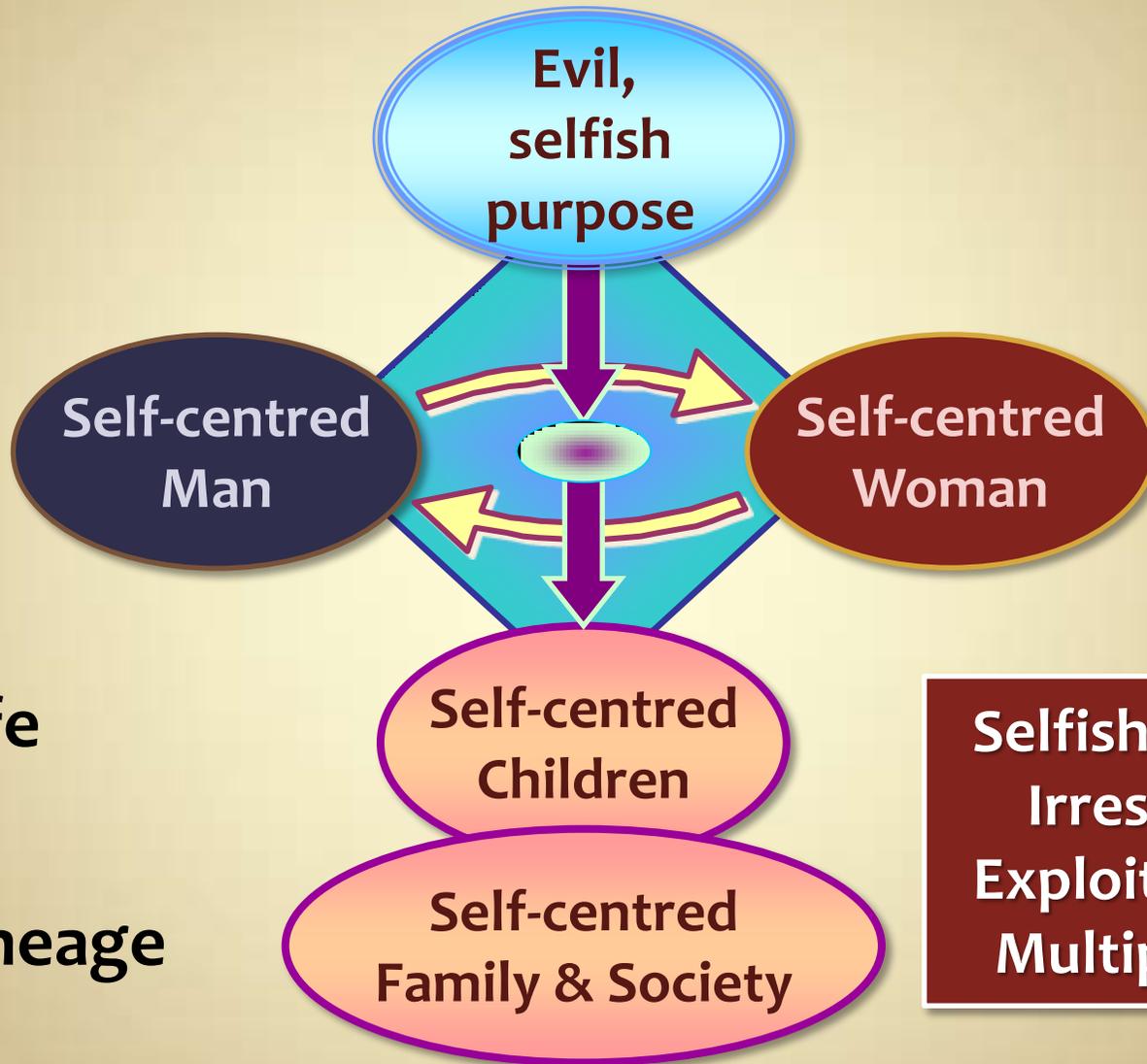
Conflict in the Family

False
Love

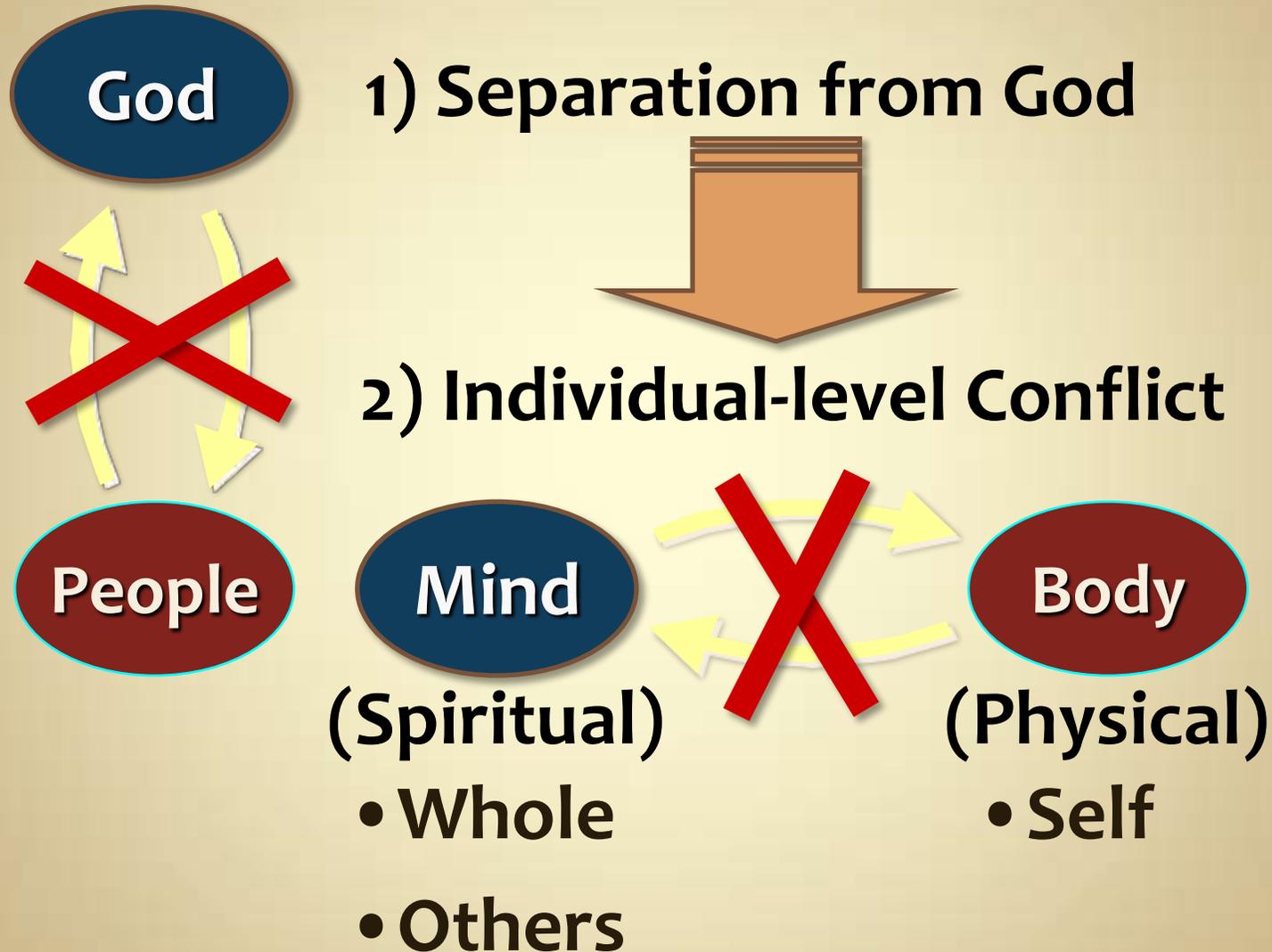
False
Parents

False Life

False Lineage

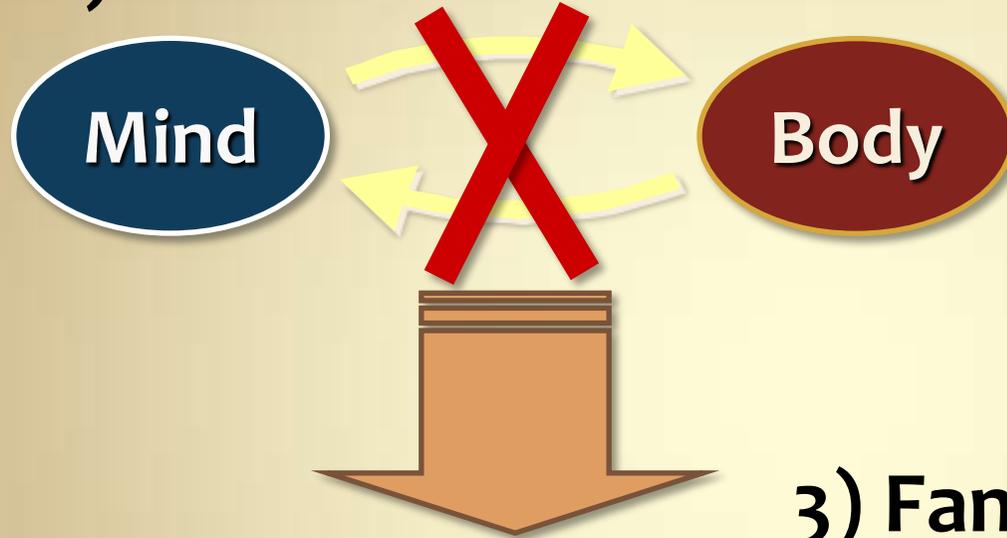


The root cause of conflict



The root cause of conflict

2) Individual-level Conflict

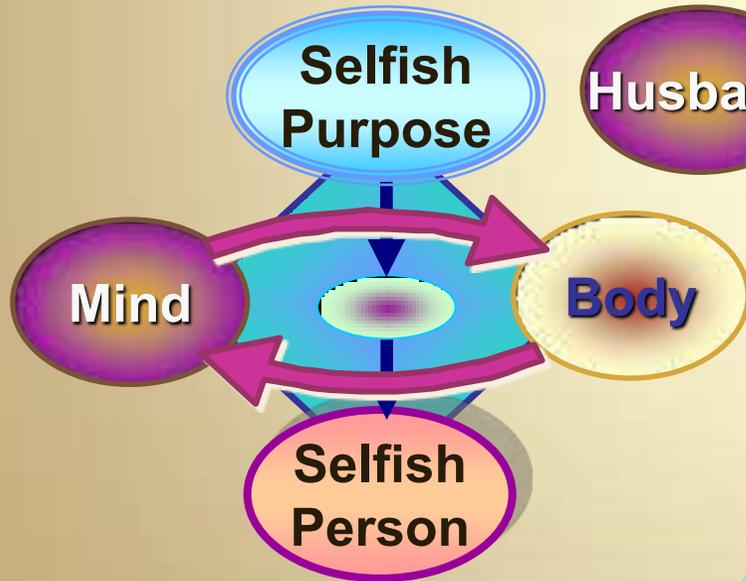


3) Family-level Conflict

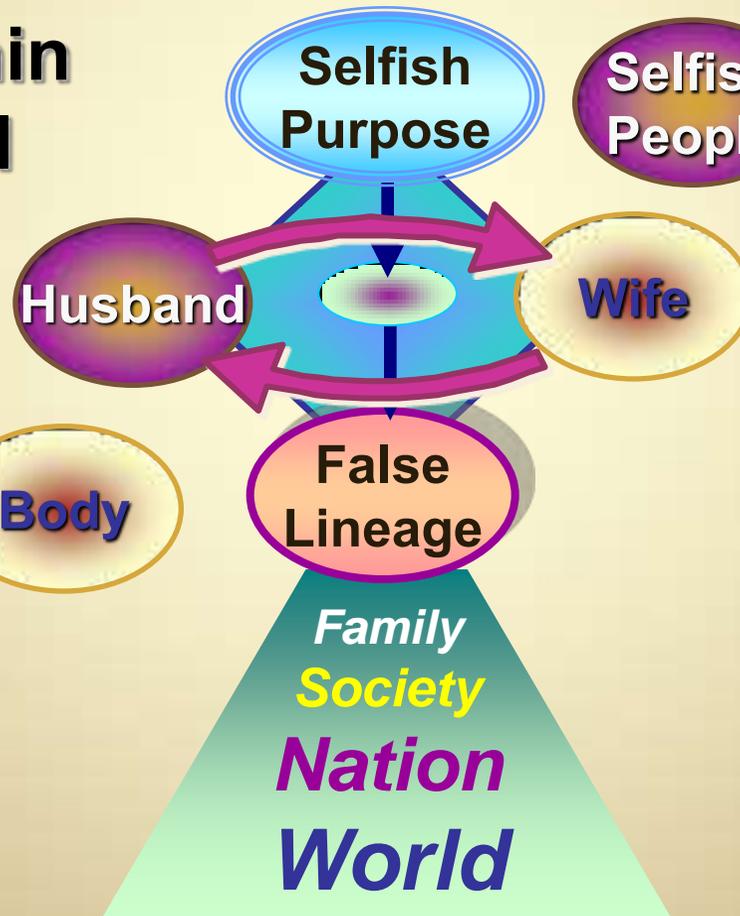


The expansion of conflict

1. Conflict within the Individual



2. Conflict in Human Society



3. Universal Conflict



Restoring Peace and Happiness

Strengthening heart and conscience
Loving the enemy

Where does peace begin ?



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Since wars begin in
the minds of men, it
is in the minds of
men that the
defenses of peace
must be constructed.

UNESCO Constitution Preamble

We need spiritual renewal



I see no hope for permanent world peace. We have tried and failed miserably. Unless the world has a spiritual rebirth, civilization is doomed.

*Dag Hammarskjöld
Second UN Secretary-General*

Religion: a restorative vehicle

True religious practice seeks to restore the original ideal of peace and promotes:

- **Humility in front of God, respect to parents, fidelity in marriage, loyalty, public service**
- **Personal discipline, sacrifice and control of physical desires**
- **Restraint, patience and forgiveness in relationships**
- **Love others as you love yourself**
- **Love of neighbours, and even enemies**

How do we change our nature ?



Indemnity = Spiritual Restoration

An effort to reverse or restore something that was lost.

Taking responsibility by taking actions to correct flaws, weaknesses and bad habits

Step 1 : reconcile with God and higher values



- Prayer and meditation
- Offerings to God
- Study of Scripture
- Sexual purity, celibacy, separation from the world
- Submission and obedience to God

Step 2 : reconcile with each other

Let evil be rewarded by like evil, but he who forgives and seeks reconciliation shall be rewarded by God. He does not love the wrongdoers ... True constancy lies in forgiveness and patient forbearance.

Islam Qur'an 42. 40-43

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

*Christianity
Matthew 5:23-24*

Where there is forgiveness there is God Himself.

Sikhism Adi Granth, Shalok Kabir p 1372

Honour God and higher values + Love each other

God's Word
Higher Values



Learn,
believe
and
practice

+



Practice in
relationship
with others.

Success in **both areas** is needed
to move closer to the goal of peace.

Archetypes of Conflict



God wanted Cain and Abel to love each other.
If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?

But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching
at your door . . . but you must master it.

Judaism: Genesis 4

Archetypes of Conflict

ABEL

- ❖ Abel loved God, but could not win the heart of his brother who was consumed with resentment .
- ❖ Abel had God's blessing and would not share it

CAIN

- ❖ Cain was consumed with resentment over perceived injustice, not seeing his brother from God's point of view.
- ❖ Unable to control his anger, he killed his brother

What should happen

ABEL

- ❖ Be humble even though blessed by God.
- ❖ Forgive and be tolerant in the face of abuse.
- ❖ Serve his brother to melt his resentment.
- ❖ Be ready to mediate.

CAIN

- ❖ Overcome resentment of past rejection.
- ❖ Recognize his brother's value.
- ❖ Rejoice in his brother's success.
- ❖ Move on from hatred, be ready to reconcile.

The greatest act of love – love of enemy

To give even to those who have done one great harm is the key to peace.

- ❖ **Converts the enemy into a friend.**
- ❖ **Reverses ancient patterns of abuse and revenge.**

Loving our enemies



We never get rid of an enemy by meeting hate with hate; we get rid of an enemy by getting rid of enmity.

Martin Luther King Jnr.

Loving our enemies

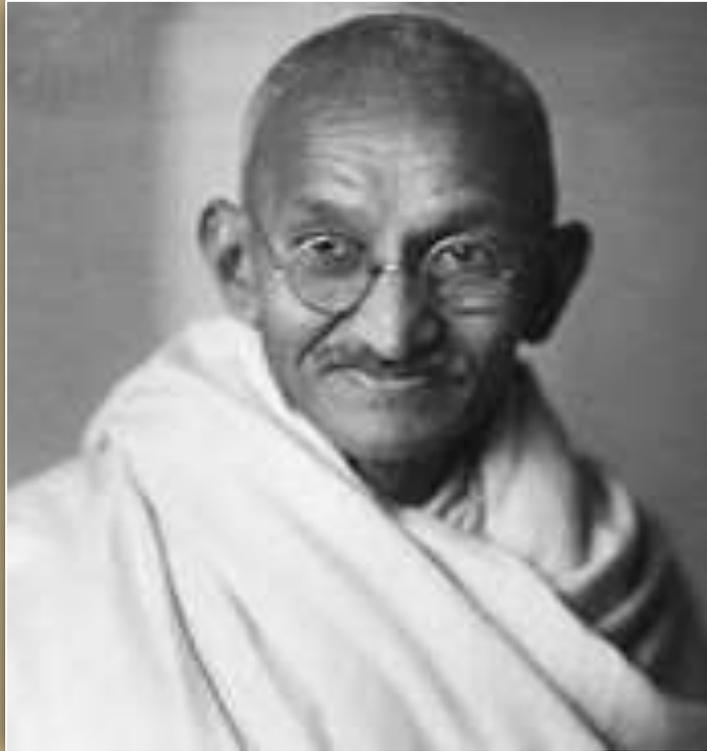


**Jesus did not condemn
any of his enemies.**

**His power was the
power of love.**

Sun Myung Moon

Loving our enemies



**When I despair, I
remember that all
through history the
ways of truth and love
have always won.**

Mahatma Gandhi

Our Choice – resolve or repeat past conflicts

Past



Future

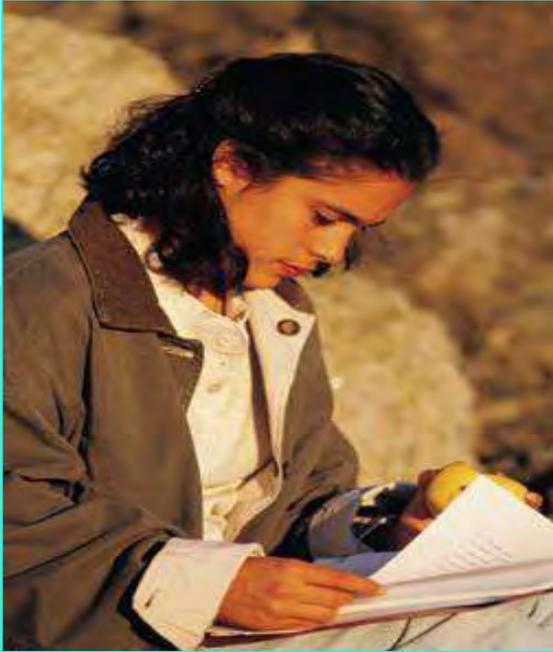
Unresolved problems will be passed on to future generations, and in most cases be bigger and more difficult to solve.



U P F

**Universal Values as a Foundation for
World Peace**

What do we have in common?



We All Have a Common Origin.

Allah

God

Jehovah

Tao

Common
Origin

Yahweh

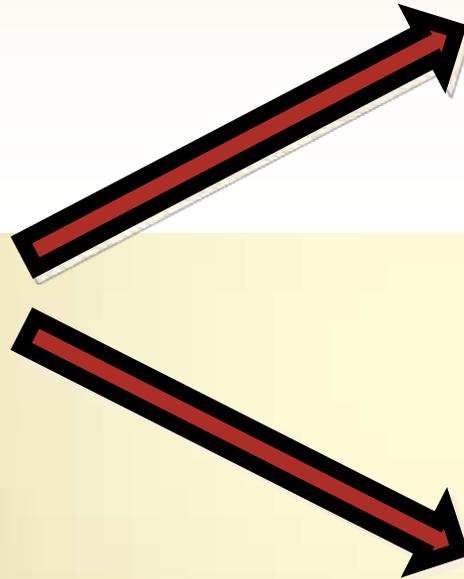
Ultimate Reality

Great Spirit



How Can We Learn About Our Common Origin?

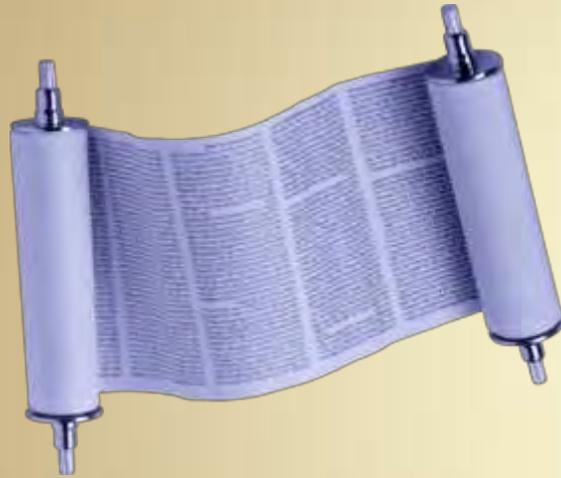
**Common
Origin**



**Study of religion,
scripture and philosophy**

**Study of the
natural world
through science**

Judaism



*The heavens are telling
the glory of God;
And the firmament
proclaims his handiwork.*

Psalm 19.1

Christianity



*Ever since the creation of the world .
.. his eternal power and deity has
been perceived in the things that
have been made.*

Romans 1.19-20

Islam



There is no God but He, the Living, the Self-subsisting, Eternal. No slumber can seize Him nor sleep. His are all things in the heavens and on earth.

Qur'an 2:255

Sikhism



He is the Sole Supreme Being; of eternal manifestation; Creator, Immanent Reality; Without Fear, Without Rancor; Timeless Form; Unincarnate; Self-existent.....

*Japuji p. 1, The Mul Mantra
(Sikhism)*

Artists Are Known through Their Work.

Artist



Painting



Renoir

Creation of Adam



Michelangelo

A world of complementary pairs



The Pair System - Male and Female

Human

Male



Female

Animal

Male



Female

Plant

Stamen



Pistil

Mineral

Positive



Negative

The Pair system – Mind and Body

Human

Mind



Body

Animal

Instinct



Body

Plant

Plant Mind



Body

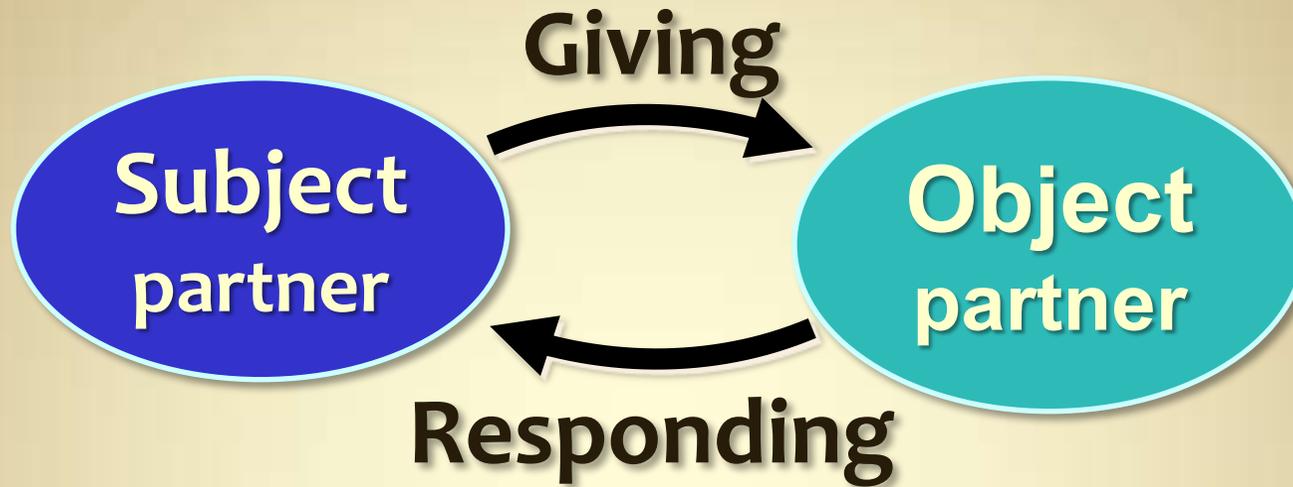
Mineral

Inherent Nature



Matter & Energy

The Pair system - principle of interaction

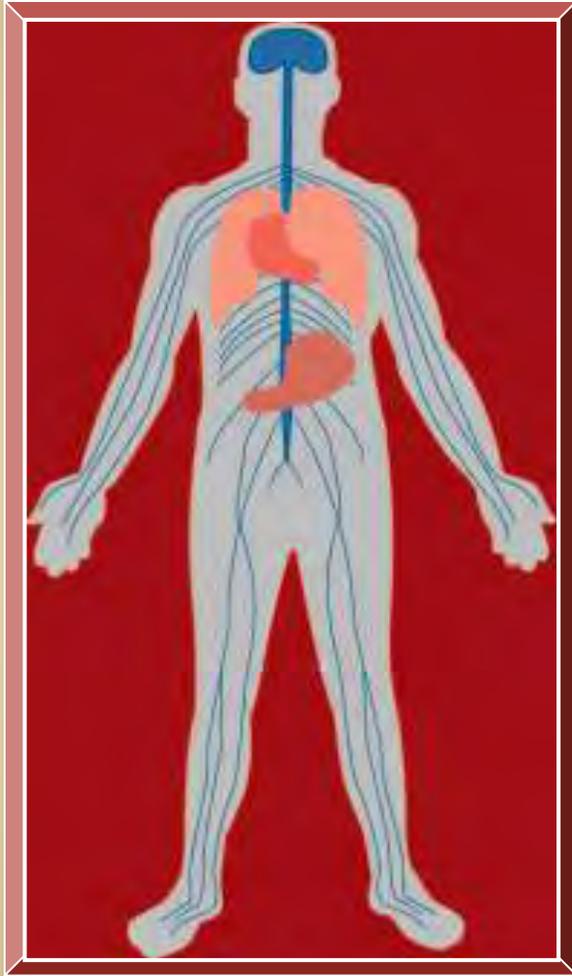


The body resembles the mind



Teacher and pupil

The pair system - centres on a higher purpose

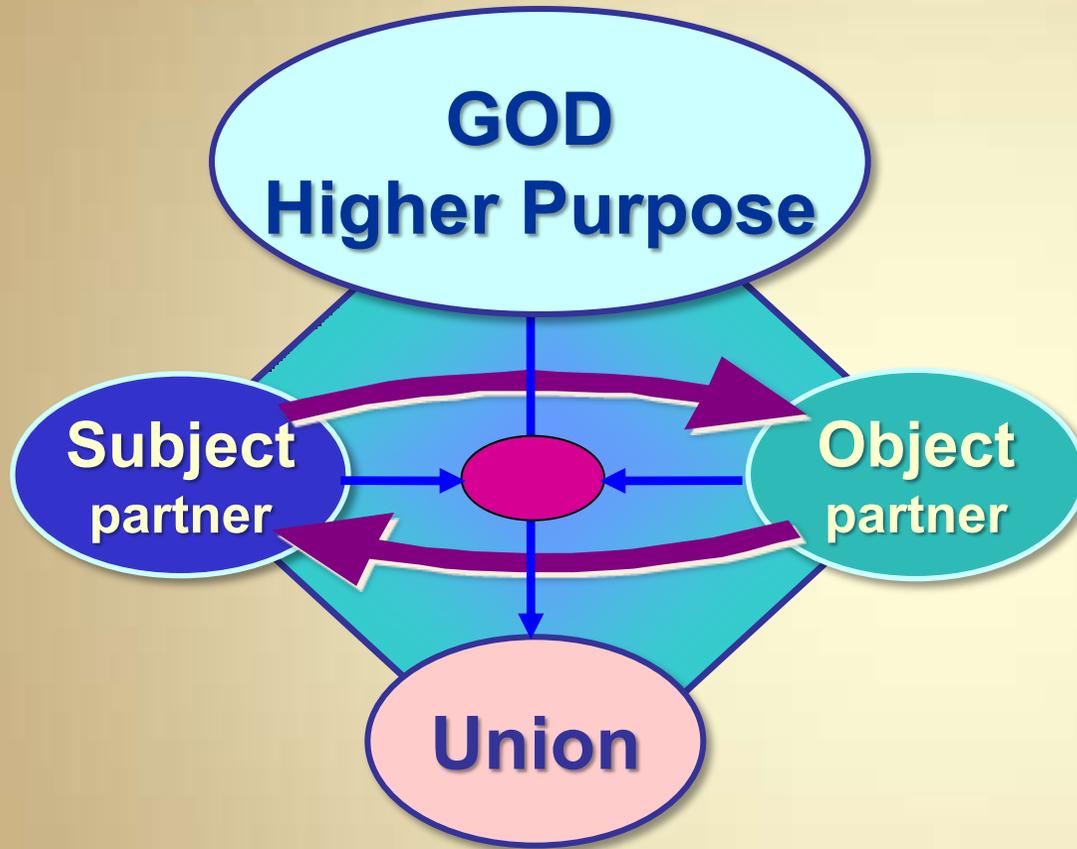


Purpose to maintain life



Education

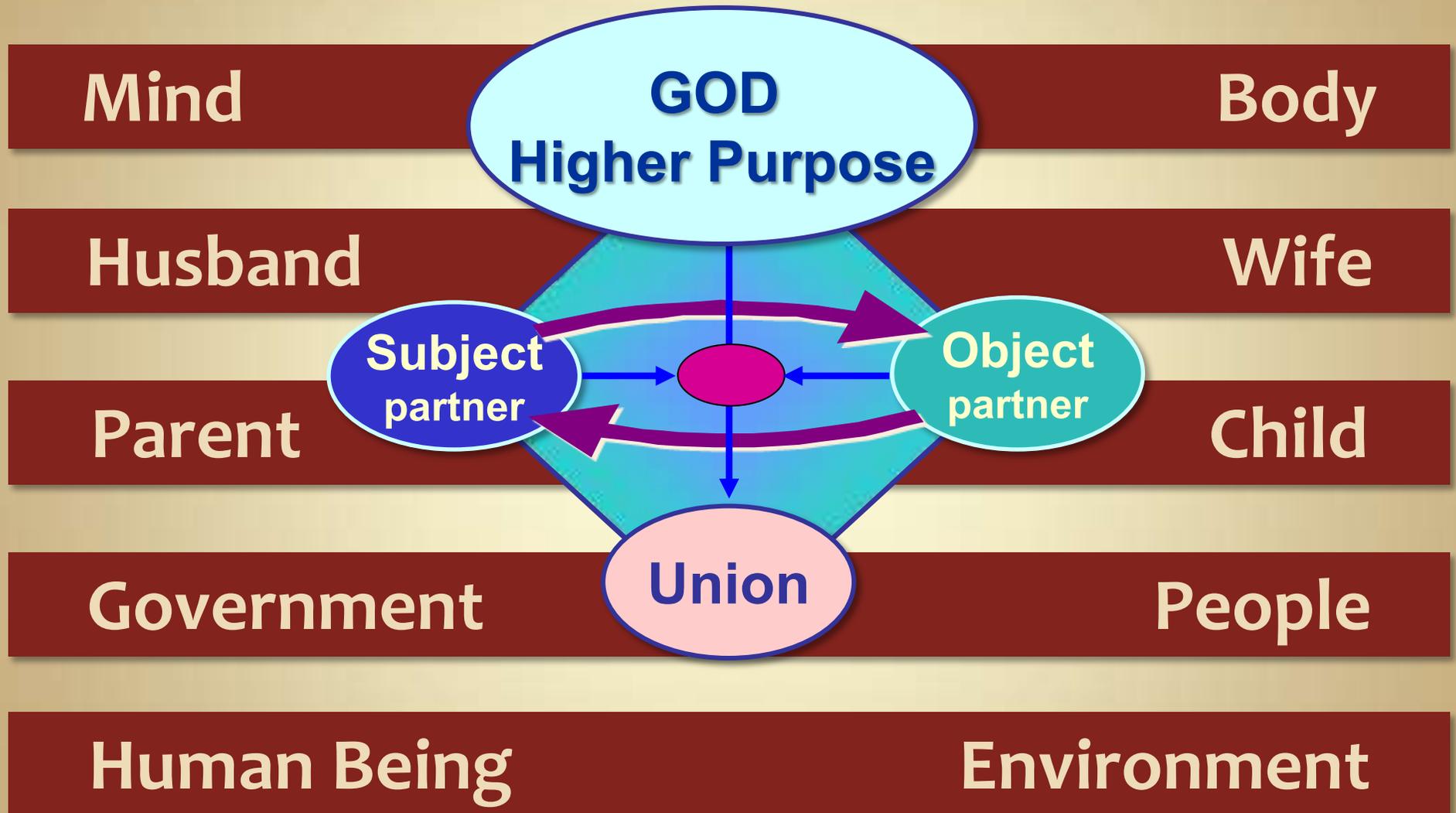
The Pair System - higher purpose



Development
Realise the purpose

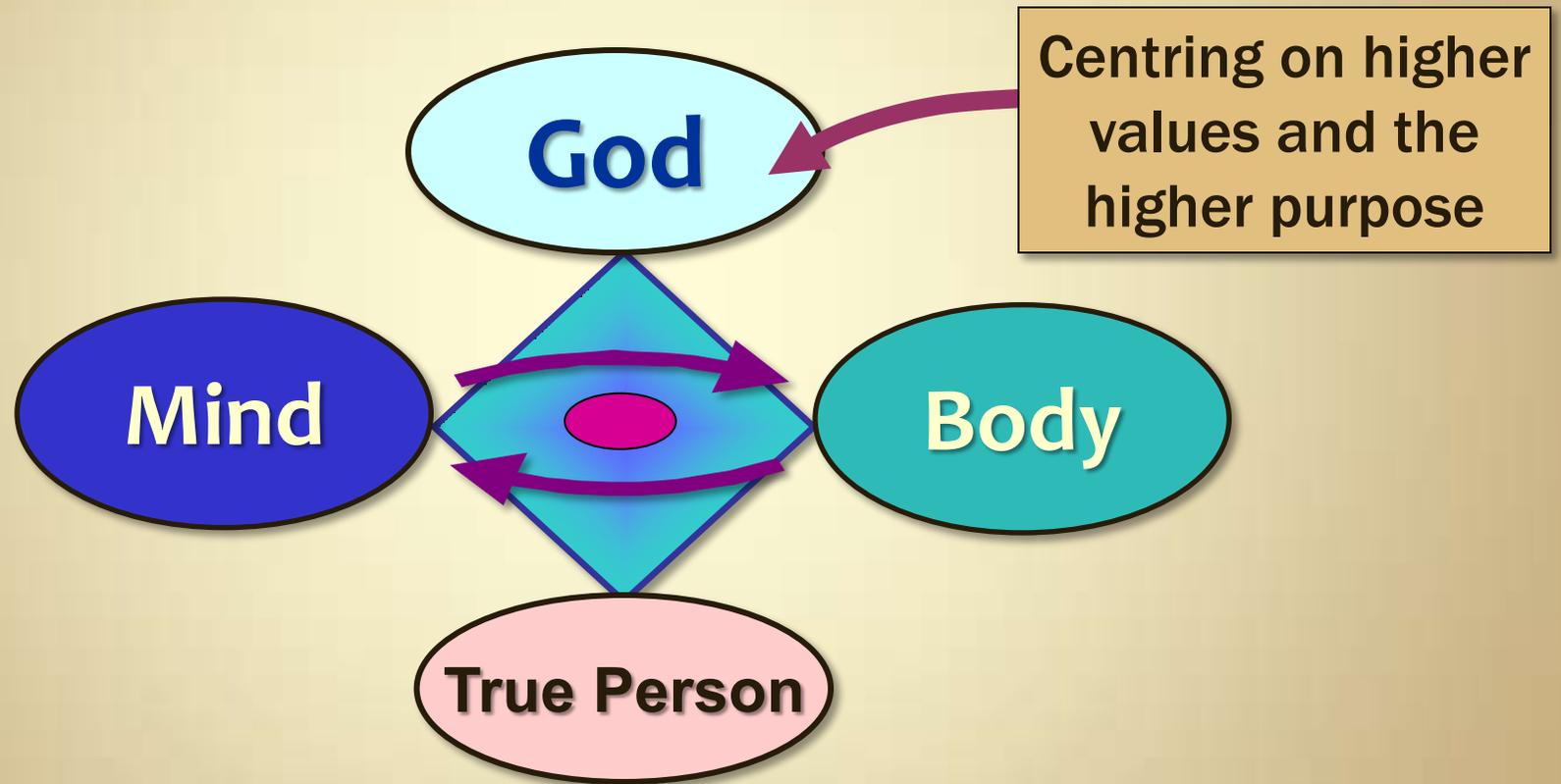
Higher Purpose
↓
Give & Take Action
(living for each other)
↓
Good Result –
joy / Peace / happiness

The Pair System – Living for the Sake of Others



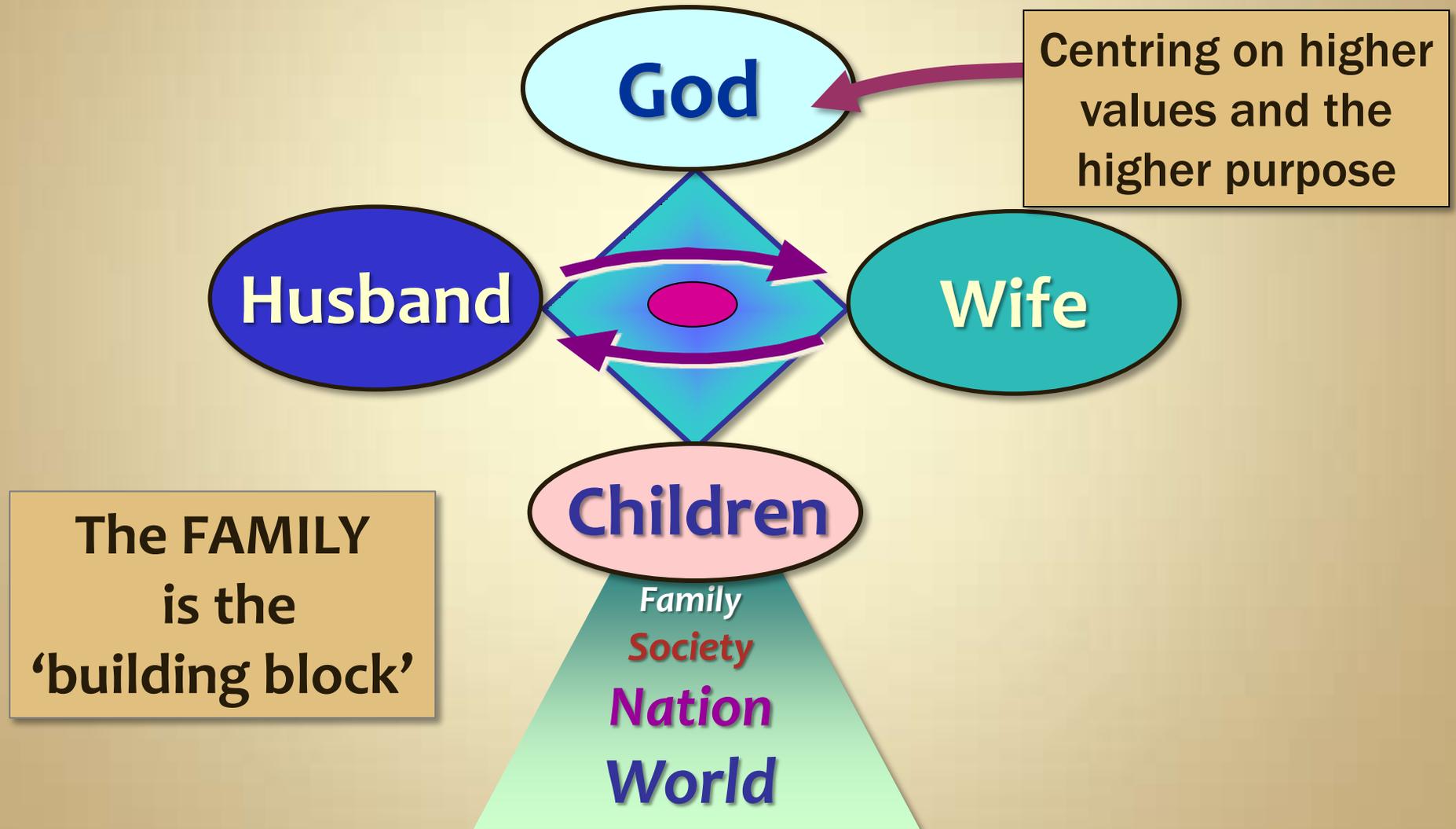
Foundation for Lasting Peace and Happiness

1. Individual Peace



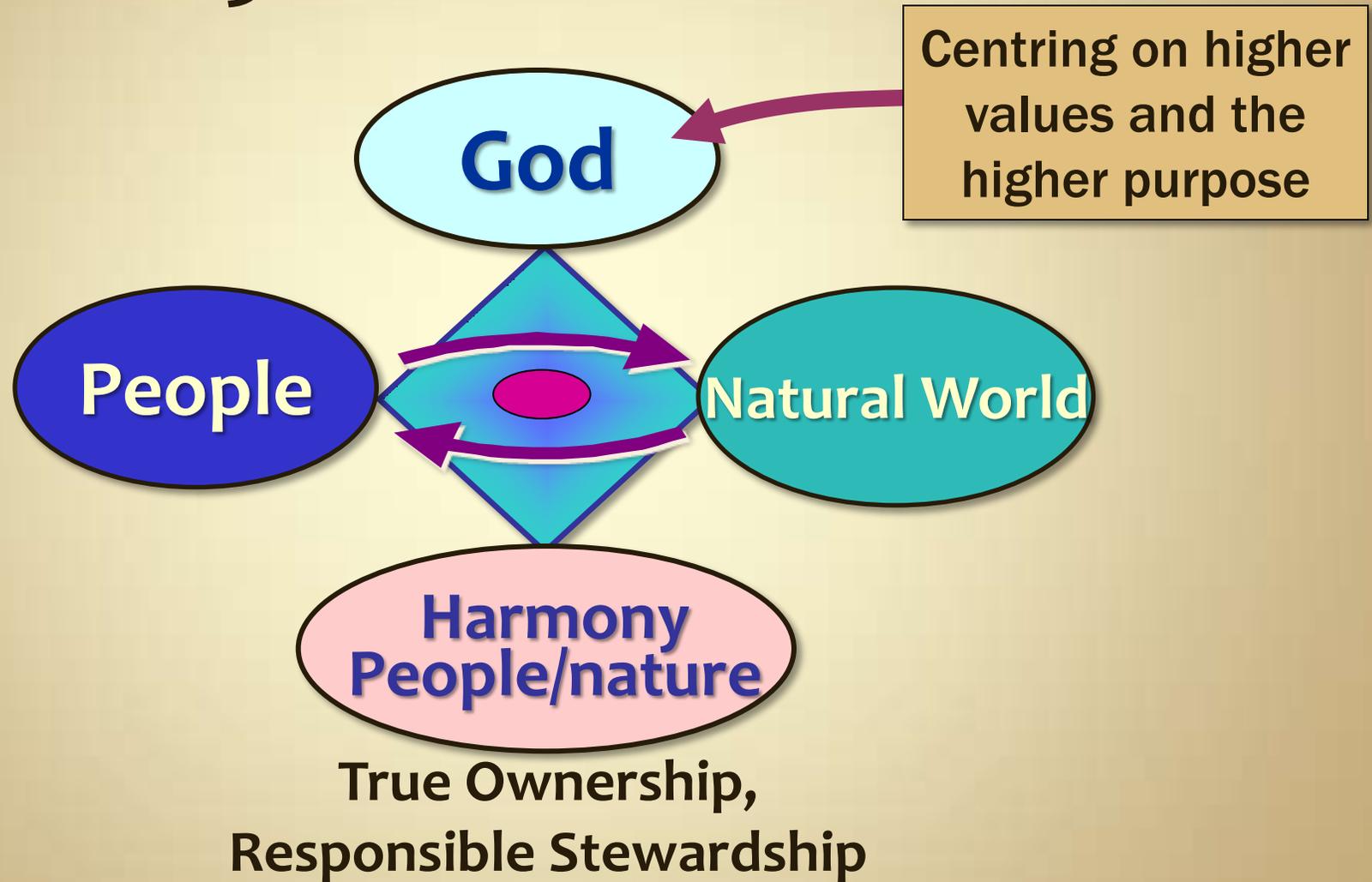
Foundation for Lasting Peace and Happiness

2. Peace in Human Society



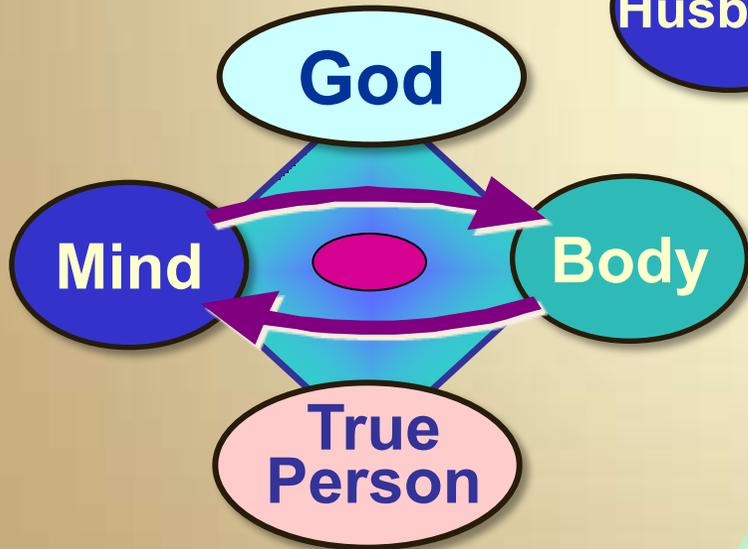
Foundation for Lasting Peace and Happiness

3. Universal Peace

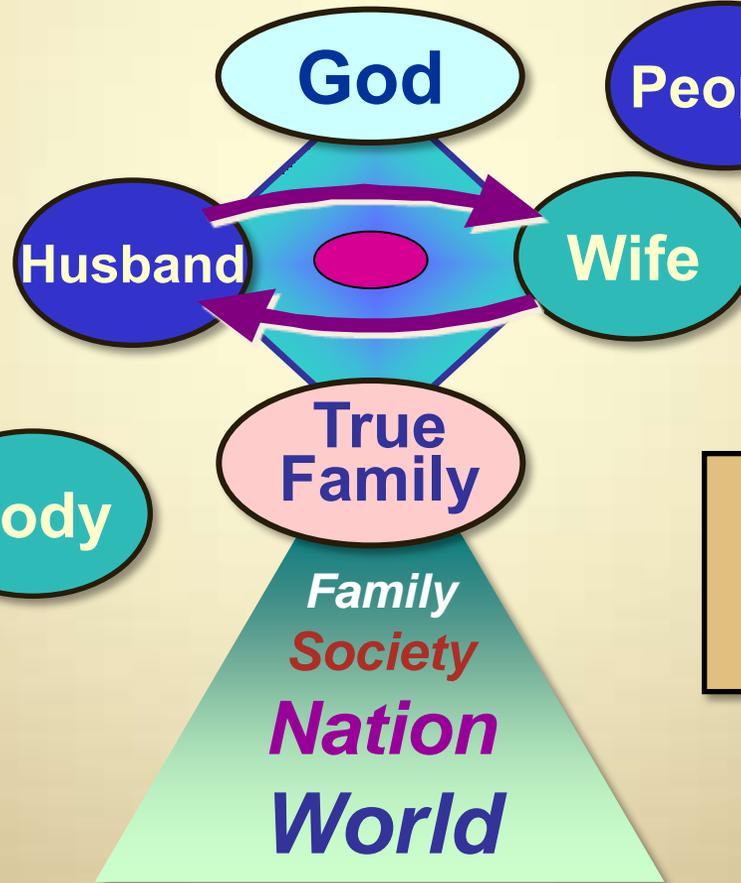


Three Foundations

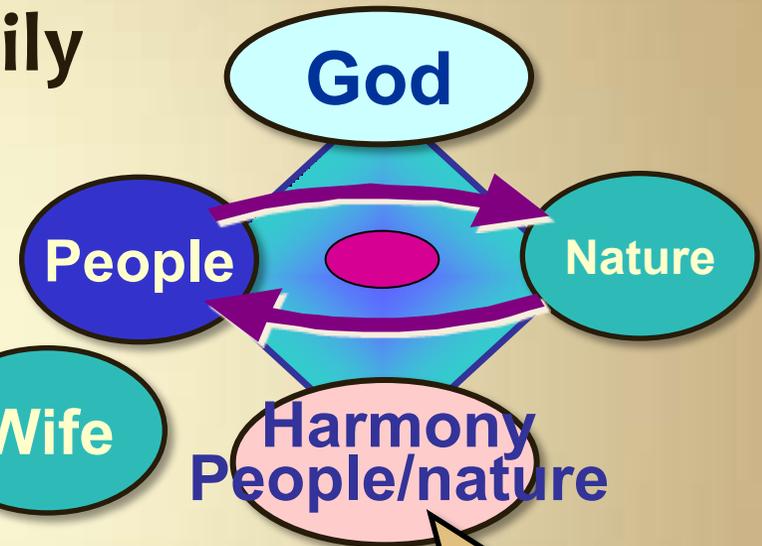
1. Individual Peace



2. Peace in Family & Society



3. Universal Peace



true ownership-
responsible
stewardship

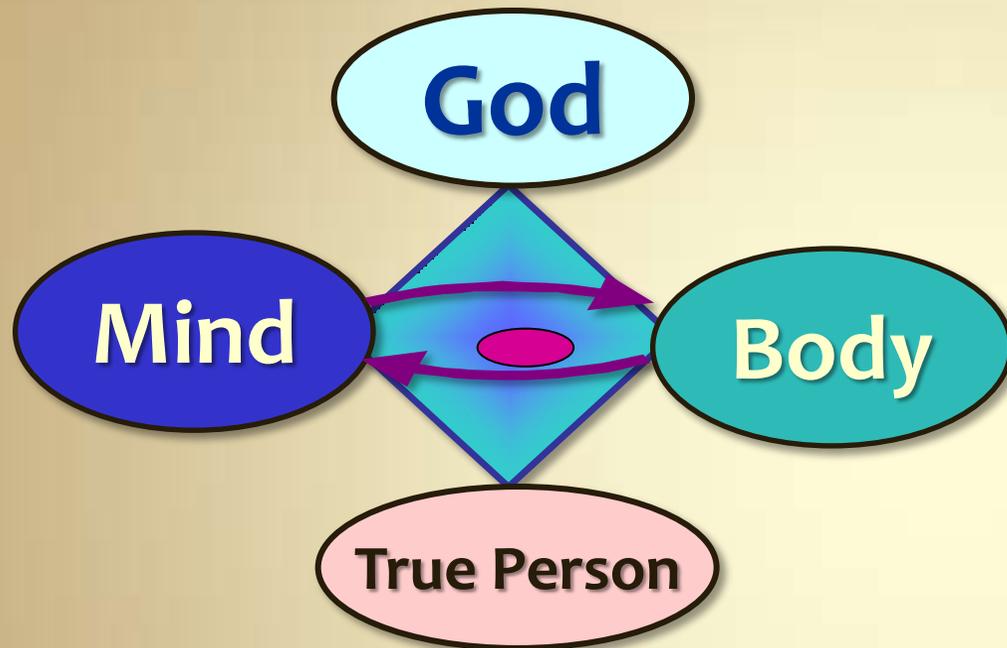
Individual Peace

Unity of mind and body – word and deed
Becoming a true individual

The Search for God and Goodness

- As the deer longs for flowing streams, my soul longs for God
Psalm 42 (Judaism and Christianity)
- The greatest bliss is the good pleasure of God: that is supreme felicity
Qur'an 9.72 (Islam)
- Every being has the Buddha Nature. This is the self. The Tathagata shows all beings the storehouse of enlightenment .. their Buddha Nature.
Mahaparinirvana Sutra 214-15 (Buddhism)
- The virtues are acquired by first having actually practiced them ... we become just by doing just acts, temperate by doing temperate acts, brave by doing brave acts.
Aristotle Nicomachean Ethics 2.1.4

Individual Peace and happiness



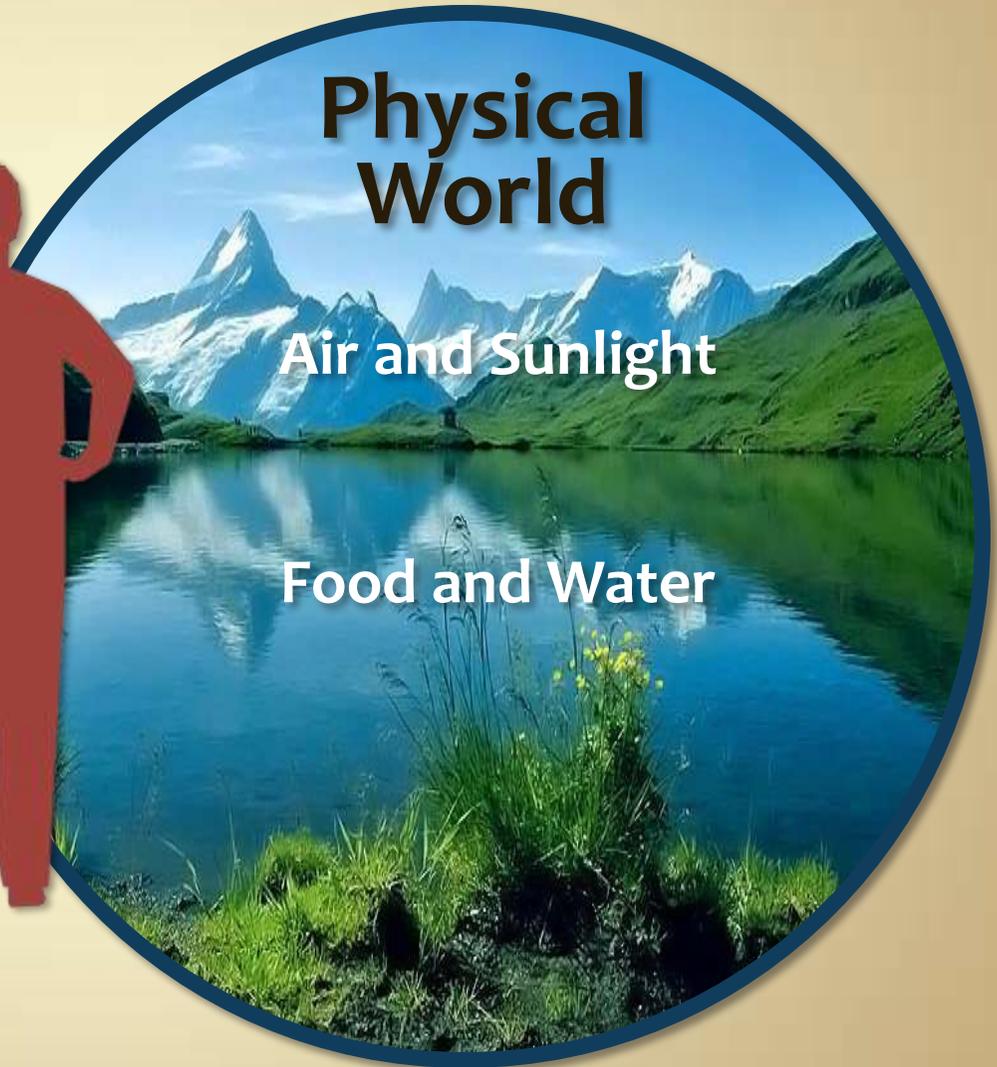
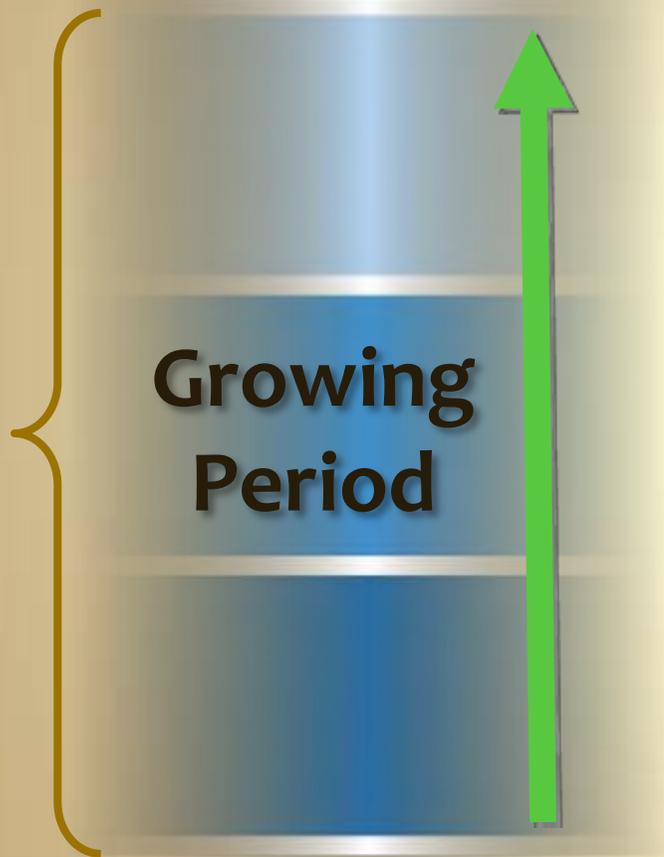
- **Mind/body unity - integrity**
- **Growth in character - maturity**
- **Closeness to God – higher values**

Individual Peace and happiness



Becoming a responsible individual with integrity

How do we grow physically?



How do we grow Spiritually ?

Spiritual World

Life elements from God

Good (or bad) vitality
elements from our
physical actions



Growing
Period



Human responsibility

To become a spiritually mature, 'true' person:



God's
Responsibility



Human
Responsibility

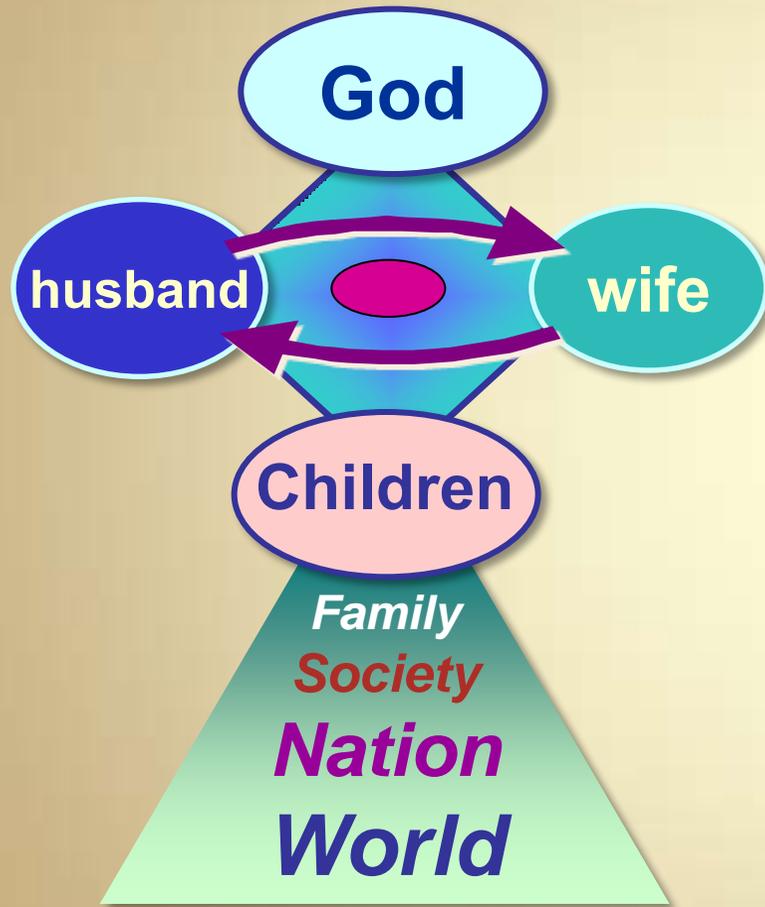
God – holy book,
religious founder,
priest, parents,
teachers, elders, etc

(my **100%** effort)

Peace in the Family and Society

The Family
as the School of Love and Ethics

Peace and happiness in Family and Society



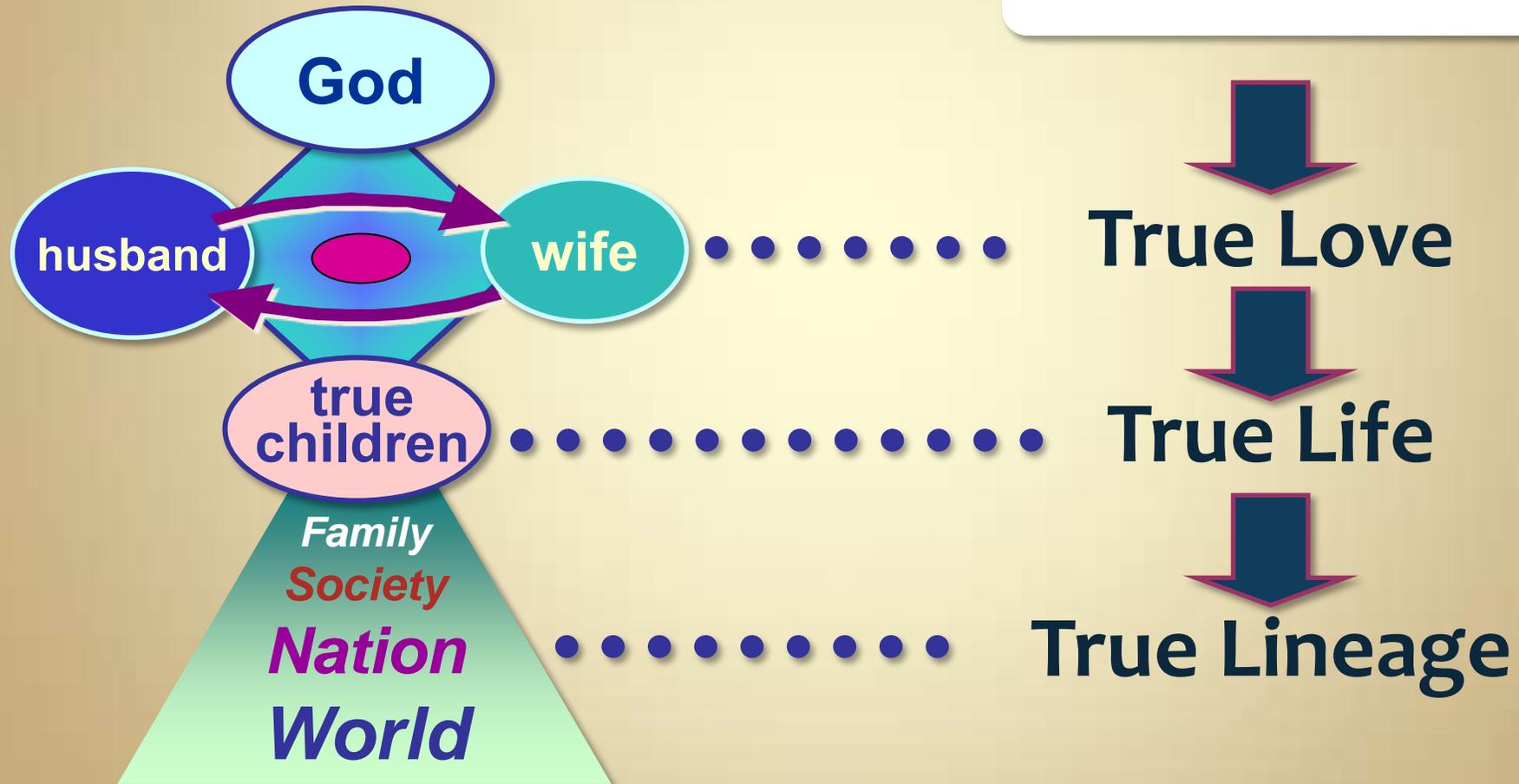
**The FAMILY
is the
'building block'**

World Religions and Marriage

- “Lord, give us joy in our wives and children, and make us models for the God-fearing.” *(Islam) Qur'an 25.74*
- The moral man finds the moral law beginning in the relation between man and woman, but ending in the vast reaches of the universe. *(Confucianism) Doctrine of the Mean 12*
- Not those are true husband and wife that with each other [merely] consort: Truly wedded are those that in two frames, are as one light. *(Sikhism) Adi Granth, Var-Suhi-Ki, M.3, p. 788*
- Supporting one's father and mother, cherishing wife and children and a peaceful occupation; this is the greatest blessing. *(Buddhism) Sutra Nipata 262*
- “Have you not read, that He who made them from the beginning made them male and female, and said for this reason... the two shall become one flesh, so they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder... *(Christianity) Matthew 19:4-10*

Foundation for Lasting Peace and Happiness

2. Peace in Human Society



Love, Life and Lineage

Marriage joins the life of one woman and the life of one man. In time, through children, it joins the lineage of the man and the lineage of the woman. It thus begins a history, a nation, the world and the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.

Sun Myung Moon

Where do we learn True Love?

**From our parents,
as our first
teachers**



The Family is:

**The School of Love - nurturing heart and
character, the primary training ground for
relationships**

Where do we learn True Love?

In relating to
brothers and
sisters, parents
and grandparents



The Family is:

**The School of Morality – the basis of
societal norms and proper conduct in the
wider world**

Where do we learn True Love?

**As husband
and wife;
seeing God in
our partner**

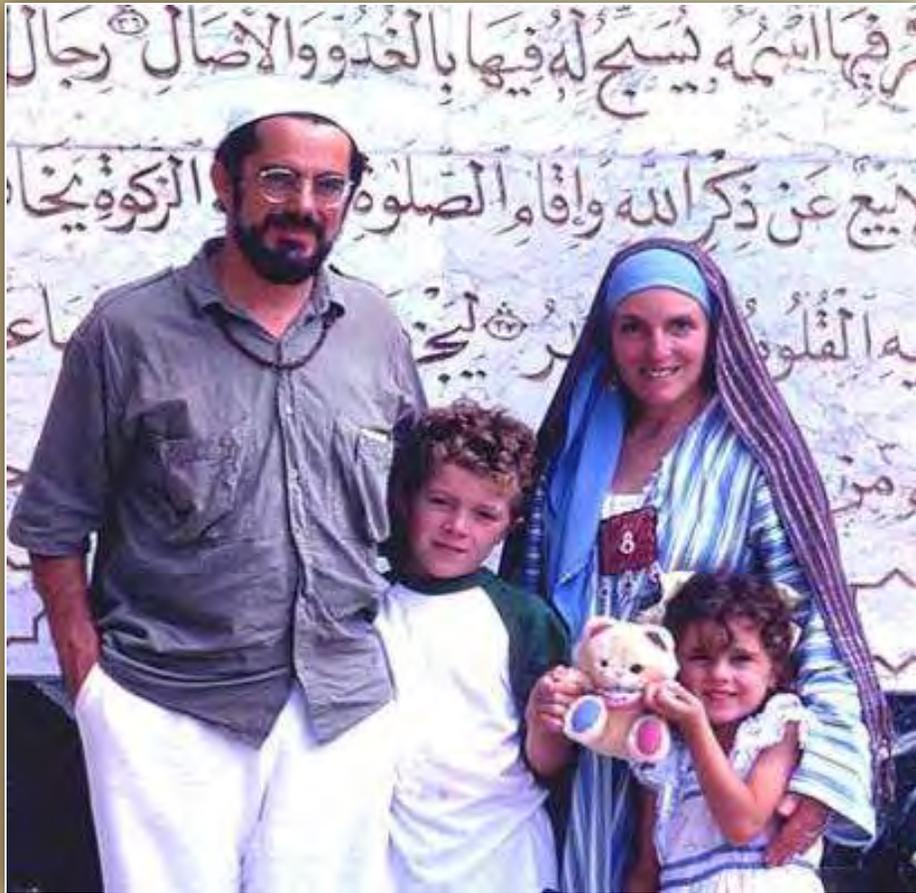


The Couple is:

**The Image of the Creator – living for the sake
of each other, the family and the wider world;
being a model of True Love to their children**

The Family living for the society, nation and world

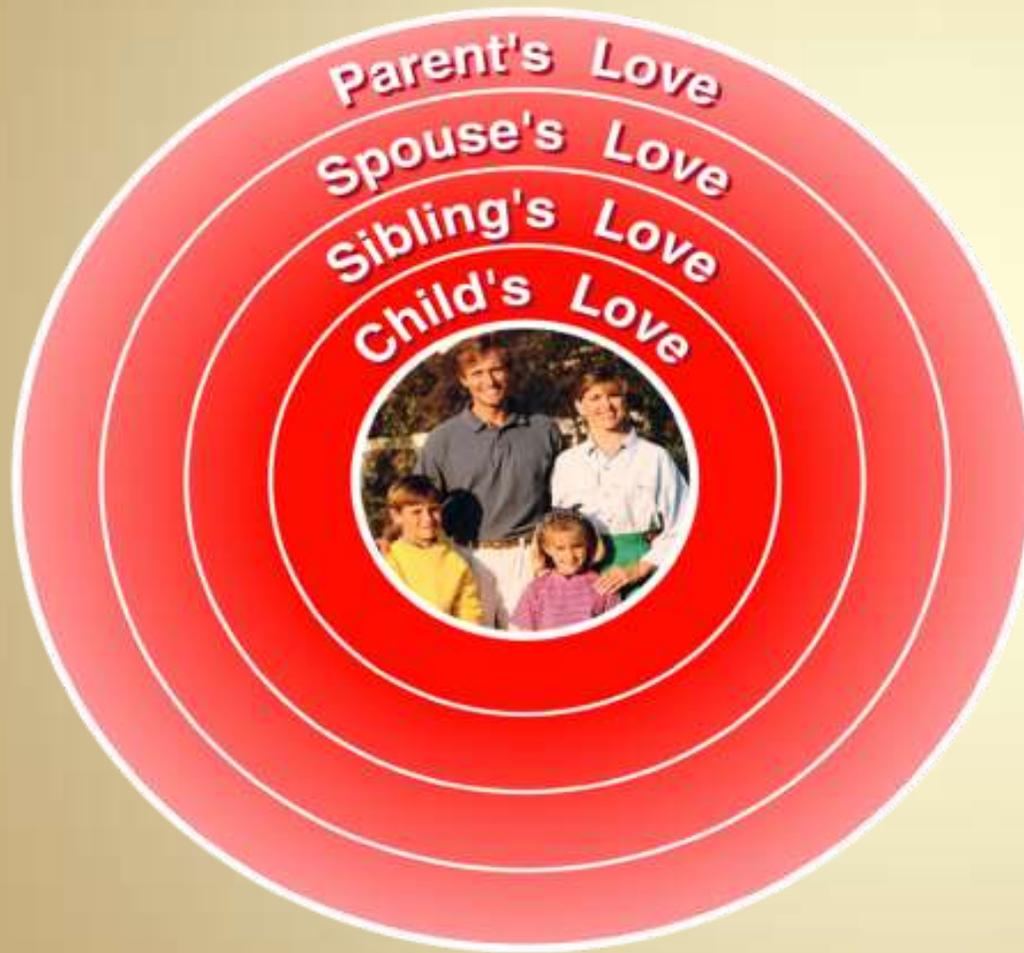
Strong families have a focus higher than self



**Altruistic Purpose
Service to Community**

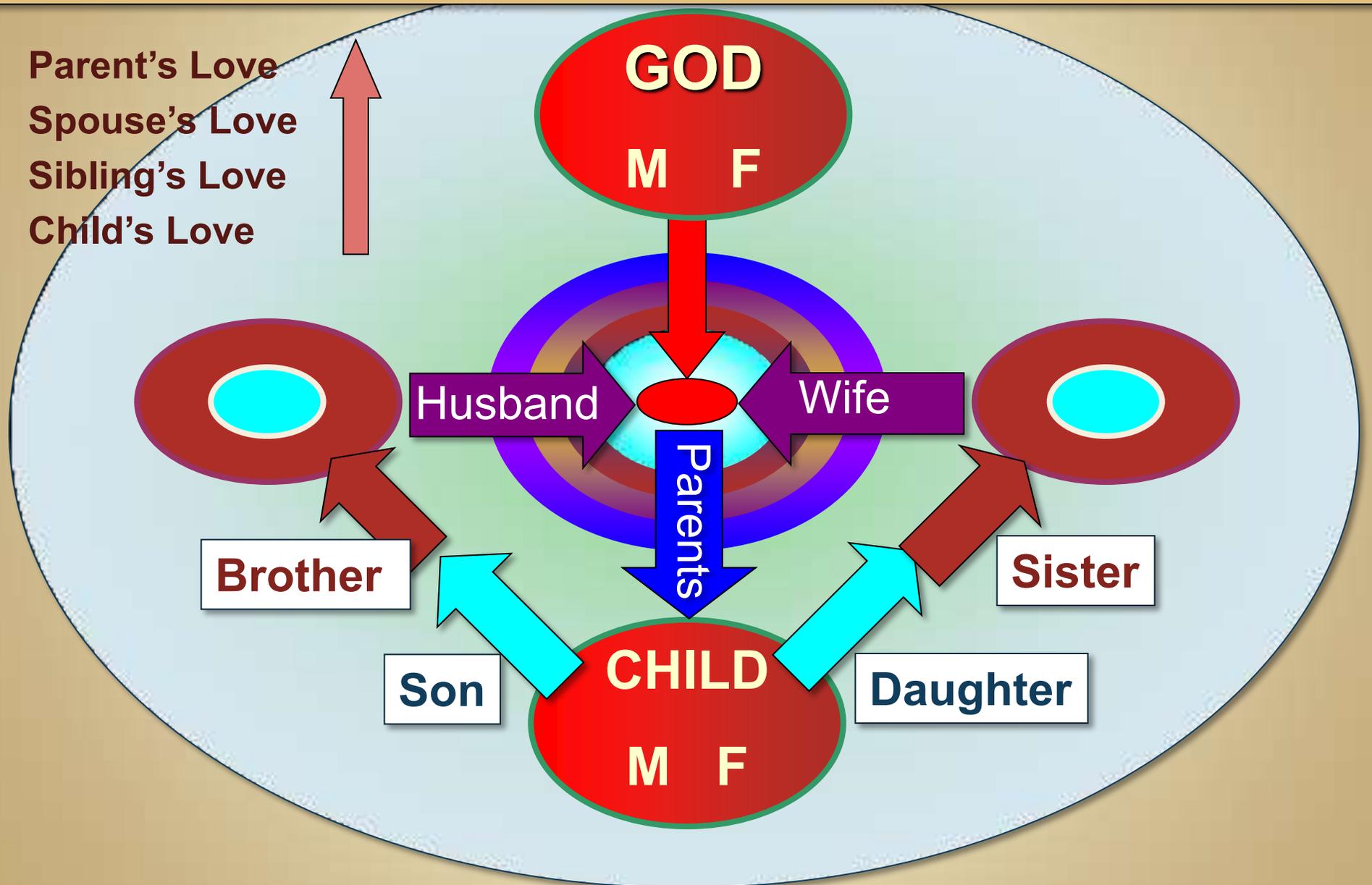
The Four Great Loves

Experienced and learnt within the family

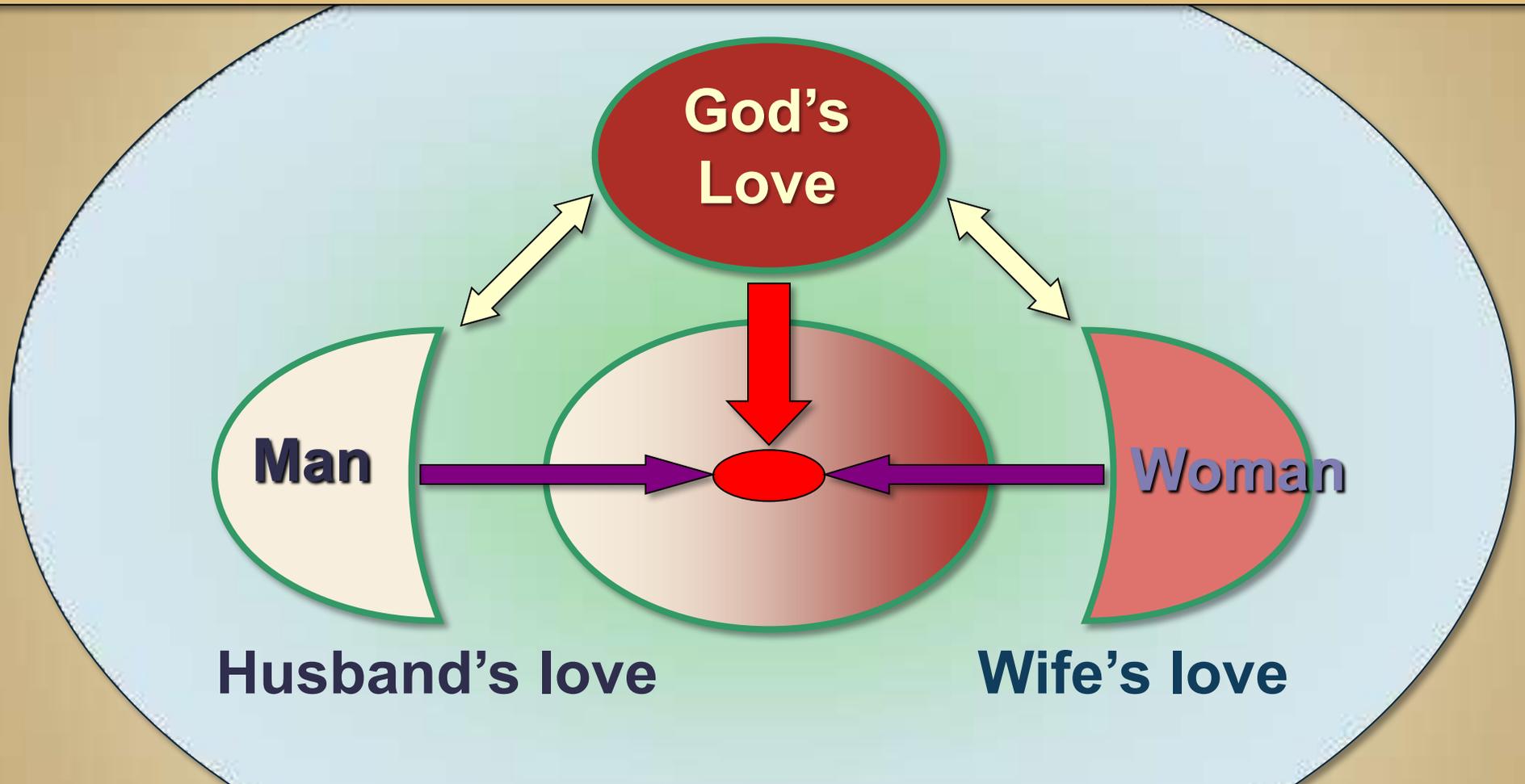


1. Child's Love
2. Sibling's Love
3. Spouse's Love
4. Parent's Love

The Four Great Loves



The sanctity of sexual love

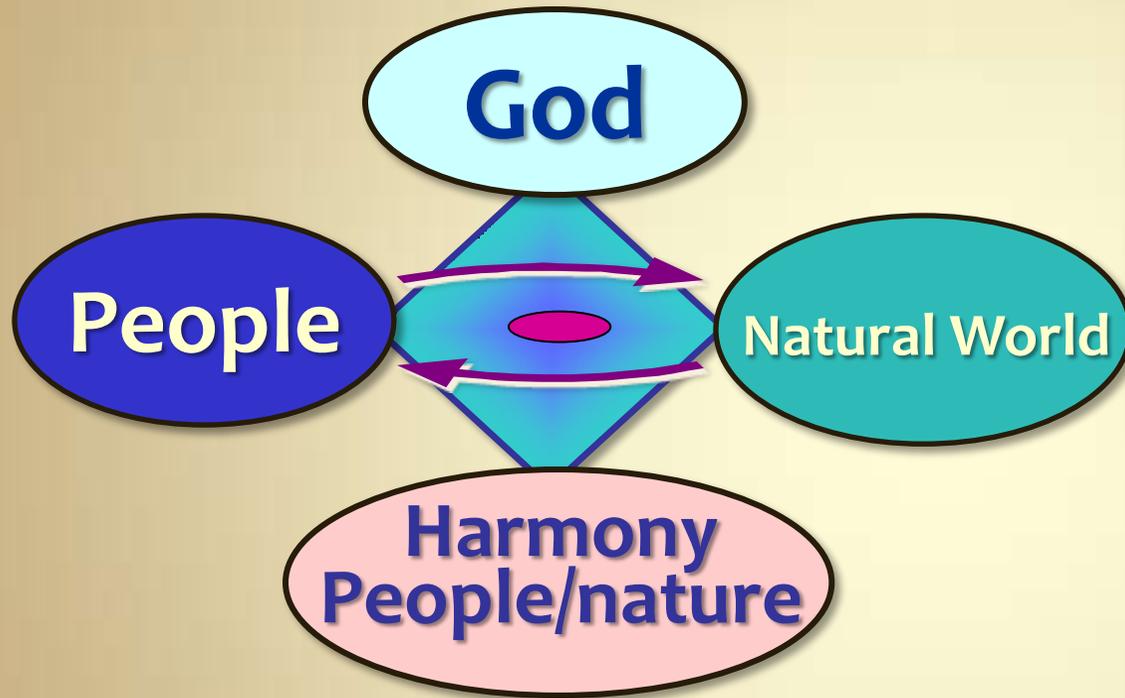


A man's sexual love belongs exclusively to his wife and a woman's sexual love belongs exclusively to her husband

Universal Peace

Harmony between people and nature
Responsible Stewardship
True Parents, Teachers and Owners

Universal Peace – harmony with nature



True Ownership,
Responsible Stewardship



- Dominion through love
- Care for the environment
- Material prosperity for all
- Science and technology benefit human beings and the natural world

True Ownership – responsible stewardship



What is our role as Ambassadors for Peace?



Individual - True Teacher

Be of benefit to others by words and example

Family and Society - True Parent

Establish a marriage and family of true love - Have a parental heart towards all

Environment – True Owner

Exercise good stewardship and dominion over nature