

# THE ART OF LISTENING

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- Me?
- The two greatest commandments.
- “Without faith it is impossible to please God” (Heb. 11:6)
- “Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ” (Rom. 10:17)
- If listening is at the starting point of showing love to God, how important is it in showing love to others?
- Jerry & Lynn Jones

God

Spiritual Nature

Reason

Conscience

Worship

- Judgment

Will

Thoughts (beliefs, values, morals, imagination)

Feelings (desire for relationships, affection)

Mind

(Chart from "Could It Be This Simple?" A Biblical Model for Healing the Mind by Timothy R. Jennings, M.D.)

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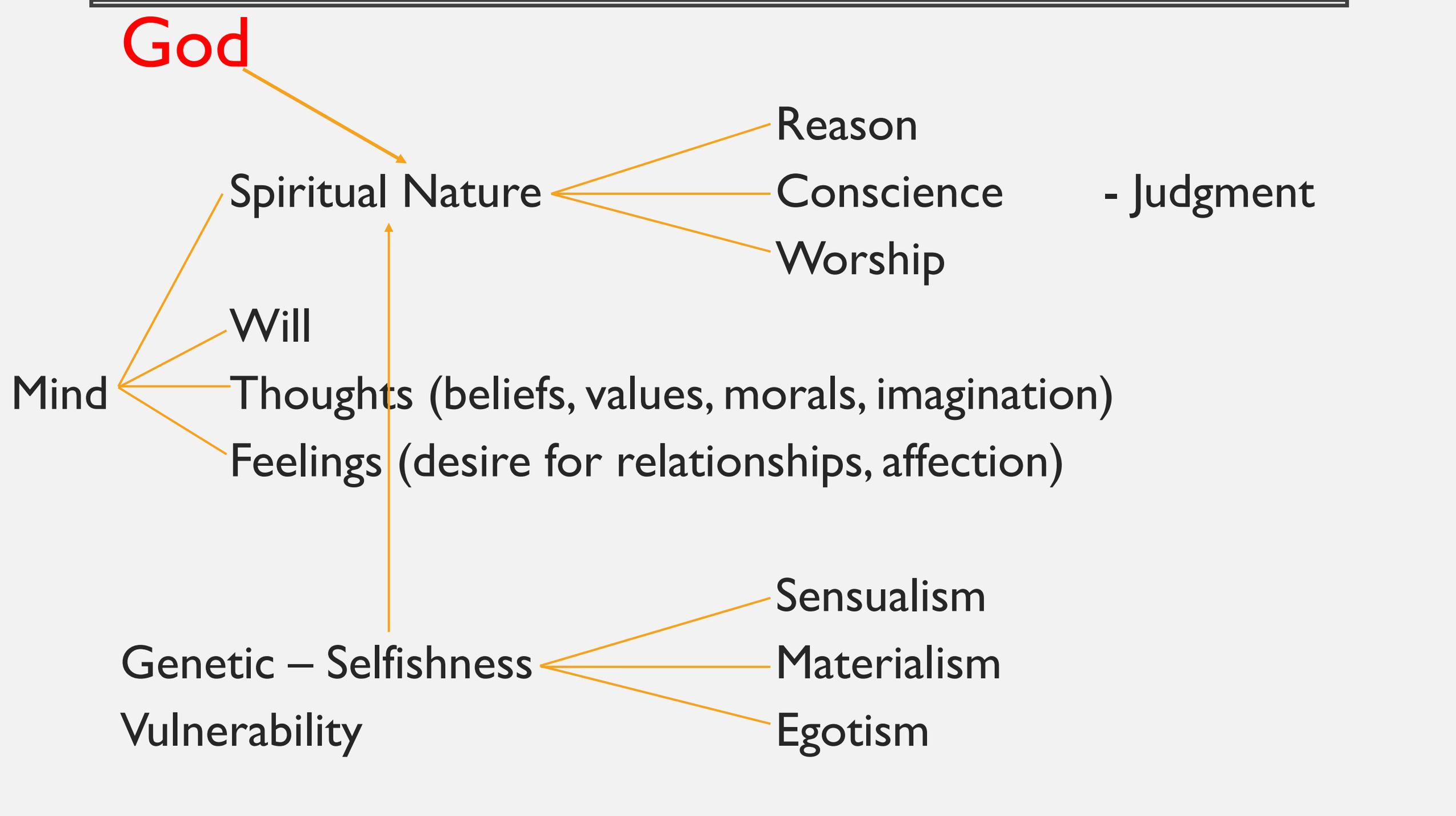
Genetic – Selfishness

Sensualism

Materialism

Vulnerability

Egotism



# ERIC FROMM

- We are on safe ground to say that psychoanalysis is a process of understanding man's mind, particularly that part which is not conscious. It is an *art like the understanding of poetry*.
- Like all art it has its *own rules and norms*:
  - 1. The basic rule for practicing this art is the complete concentration of the listener.
  - 2. Nothing of importance must be on his mind, he must be optimally free from anxiety as well as from greed.
  - 3. He must possess a freely-working imagination which is sufficiently concrete to be expressed in words.

# ERIC FROMM

- 4. He must be endowed with a capacity for empathy with another person and strong enough to feel the experience of the other as if it were his own.
- 5. The condition for such empathy is a crucial facet of the capacity for love. To understand another means to love him—not in the erotic sense but in the sense of reaching out to him and of overcoming the fear of losing oneself.
- 6. Understanding and loving are inseparable. If they are separate, it is a cerebral process and the door to essential understanding remains closed.

# SIGNS OF REASON BEING DESTROYED

- “God said it, I believe it, That settles it”
- Dethrones reason and impairs our ability to recognize truth. It allows us to believe anything. God gives evidence. Jesus talking to two disciples after resurrection. (Luke 24:25-27)
- “If it’s good enough for Mom...”
- “So many people can’t be wrong.”
- “Anger and refusal to ask questions.”
- Truth can afford to be investigated.

# SIGNS OF REASON BEING DESTROYED

- Blind faith – “Just take it on faith”.
- Satan’s greatest achievement: Spiritualism
  - Spiritualism is the pursuit of knowledge without investigation of evidence or the use of reason. Belief is based on emotions rather than a reasonable understanding of truth.
  - Some believe the Holy Spirit will take control over us to react uncontrollably.
  - Galatians 5:22-23