

SCRIPTURE READING:

John 13:33 – 35

My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.



TECH- NOP- OLY

**AND THE WAY
OF JESUS**

KEY BELIEF:

The divide between the love of Christ and the self idolatry of the technopoly **is not an inconsistency, it's a rivalry.**

BELIEVE/THINK

FREEDOM

**See and
flee the
technopoly**

**Jesus is
a master
with a way**

FORMATION

**Digital
intentionalism**

**Walk in
the way
of Jesus**

DO



FAITH



TIME



FORMATION



LOVE



POINT 1:
LOVE'S CENTRALITY

Love is the beating
center of living faith
in Jesus

CENTRAL AND SUMMARY

a start

Exodus 34:6 – 7 – love, justice...forgiveness

1 John 4:8, 16 – God is love

John 13:33 – 35 – all men will know

**Matthew 22:36; Mark 12:29 – 31 – Greatest
Commandment**

Galatians 5:5 – 7, 1 Corinthians 13:1 – 3

Colossians 3:12 – 15, 2 Peter 1:5 – 8

Galatians 5:5 – 7

But **by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope.**

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. **The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.** You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying **the truth?**

1 Corinthians 13:1 – 3

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but **have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.** If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, **I am nothing.** If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, **I gain nothing.**

Colossians 3:12 – 15

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And **over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

2 Peter 1:5 – 8

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, **love**. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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LOVE'S CENTRALITY

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ALTERNATIVE:

The alternative to **love**
isn't **hate**. It's the
idolatries of the **self**.

Pride: turning away from caring for and delighting in others,
and making sure they are used for and are delighting in you

POINT 2: LOVE'S DISAPPEARANCE

Mammon is the
selfish ambition of
the technopoly

We made the technopoly, and have shaped ourselves
in the image of our idols.

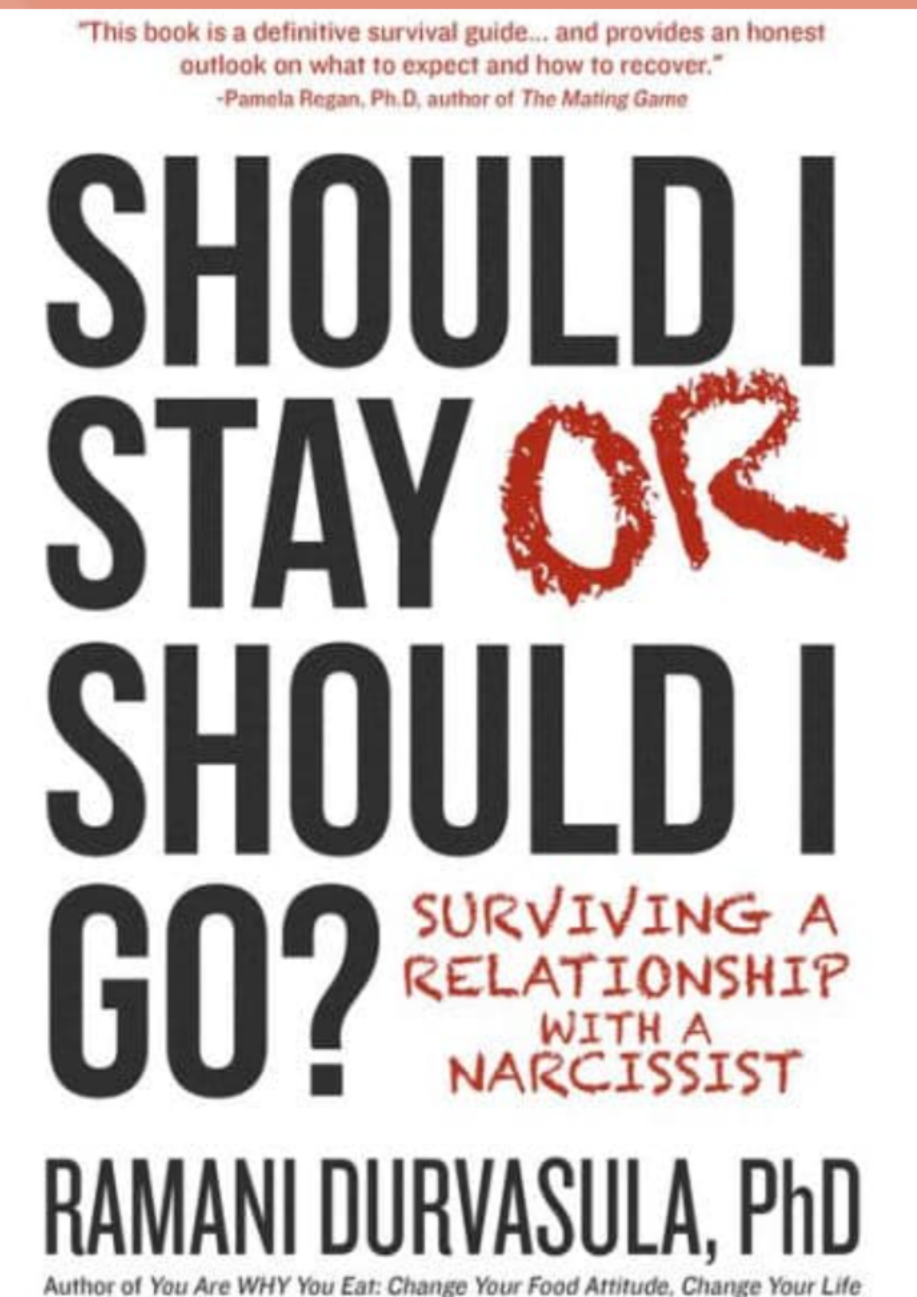
NARCISSISM ANYONE?

"...a survey of 35,000 people by the NIH, National Institutes of Health...estimates that 6.2 percent of the population have traits of Narcissistic Personality Disorder.

Unfortunately, the proportion of **young people in their 20s (9%)** is far higher than those over age 65 (3%). **Technology is the reason...**"



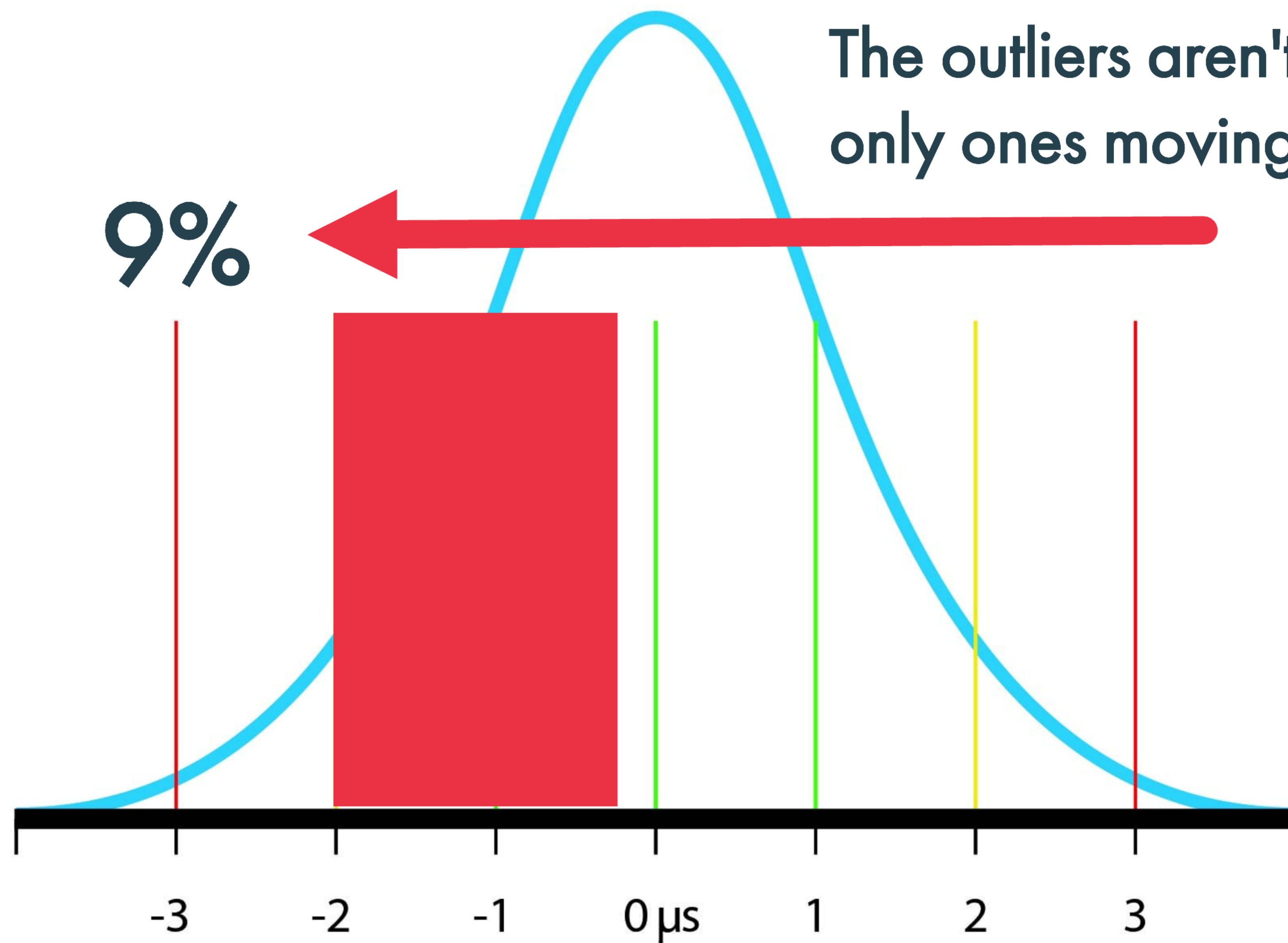
**Ramani Durvasula,
PhD, LCP**



"...It is ***very likely*** that the difference in rates of narcissism between adults in their 20s and those over 65 ***is a byproduct of the reliance on technology.*** The cultural pressure and norms around posting selfies and chronic validation seeking makes many of the behaviors of narcissism simply normal in younger adults...It is hard to engage in listening to another person with empathy [read: love] if you are waiting for the spotlight to shine back on you. It is easy to fall prey to grandiosity [read: pride] when folks are just a few thousand Instagram likes or YouTube views away from 'stardom.'"

The outliers aren't the only ones moving

9%



"Yes, and [lack of love and presence of pride]...is currently on display in numerous [public figures]...[whose] ungodly traits are actually appluded by their admirers."

—local Christian therapist from High Point Church

ie: Anti-social, self involved, vanity is not just a norm - but the ticket. **"Narcissism" *is aspirational in the technopoly.***
(See Philippians 2:3 for God's advice in this.)

"...their glory is in their shame..." - Philippians 3:19

Philippians 2:3 – 4

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

LOVE'S ETHICAL FOUNDATION

Technopoly

Self-involved
Consumerism
Materialism
Transactionalism
Virtual
Acedia
Wrath
High

Self-forgetful
Generous
Heavenly-minded
Comprehensive
Corporeal
Piety
Meekness
Sober

Way of Jesus

"...their mind is on earthly things..."

— **Philippians 3:19**

"...but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful." — **Mark 4:19**

"...you cannot serve both God and Mammon..."

— **Matthew 6:24, Luke 16:13**

Love's Functional Foundations

Time

Faith

Formation

Love's

When

What

How

Love's Developmental Foundations

Identity
Care
Courage



The anxious self has no stable identity, is obsessed with internality, and avoids other solid selves. It cannot give love reliably and cannot be satisfied receiving love.

POINT 3:
LOVE'S UNFAILING SOURCE

God makes love
possible in his Christ

Jesus Christ is love to behold and love beholding

Mark 12:44

Luke 21:4



Romans 8:31 – 37

If God is for us, who can be against us? **He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?**...Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we **are more than conquerors through him who loved us.**

Where do the riches come from?

A kind of Promise: Heavenly Mindedness

A kind of Union: Knowing Christ

A kind of Life: Living Water

A kind of Security and Status: Justification

A kind of Freedom: Law of Love

And so on...

"Love your neighbor as yourself"

Matthew 22:39, Mark 12:31, Luke 10:27,
Romans 13:9, Galatians 5:14, James 2:8



as you do



so you should

love yourself

TO "KNOW" GOD

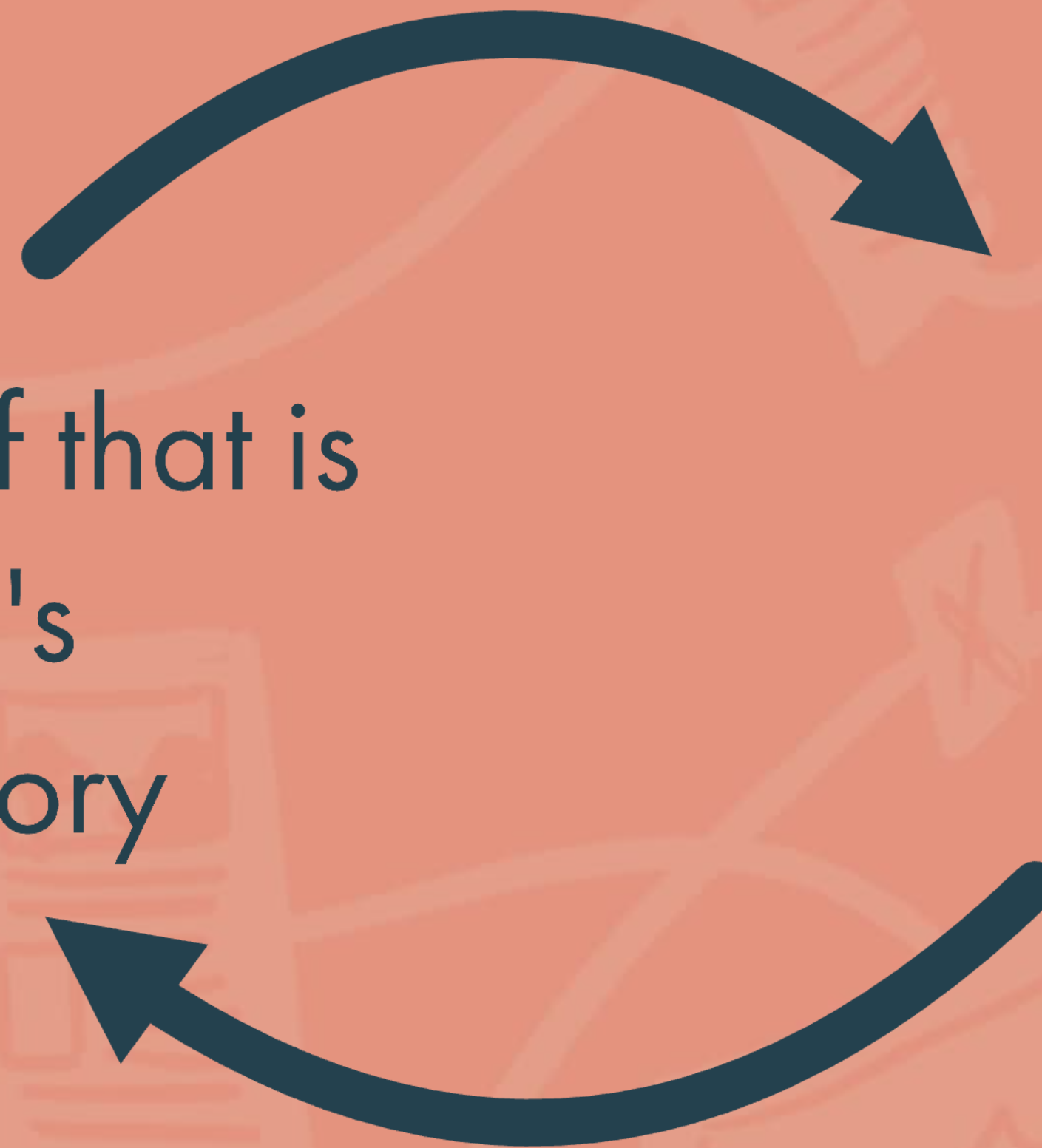
To behold and be beheld

To behold:

To see the self that is
love and love's
picture and story

To be beheld:

you are cherished,
cared for, and
delighted in





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