



Spiritual Principles in
Business Relationships
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Love

Love is the universal force which counters entropy.

Love is all around us and within us. Love is all there is. Fear and hate are the absence of love. What is all-encompassing can have no opposites. The all-encompassing aspect of love is illustrated by the water-in-fish metaphor in the article on [spirituality](#), and in the [mind-map](#) below.

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If love and spirit are all around us and within us, if we are comprised of love and spirit, is it any wonder that these topics are so difficult for us to analyze and precisely define? We are too close to love and spirit to be objective because *we are* love and *we are* spirit.

And just like the concept of spirituality, we can either (1) *debate* it or (2) *use* it. So, how can we *use* this force called *love*? That is an important question, arguably *the* most important question we can ask ourselves. Below are a few quotes and a mind-map to help us wrap our heads around what love *is* and is *not*. We discover that as we wrap our heads around love, we *are*, in fact, embodying it or *using* it.

Spiritual Growth

In his book *The Road Less Traveled*, M. Scott Peck says:

"Love is too large, too deep ever to be truly understood or measured or limited within the framework of words."

Yet, later Peck does define love:

"I define love thus: The will to extend one's self for the purpose of nurturing one's own or another's spiritual growth."

Spiritual growth is about deepened relationships with God, the universe, others and self.

“Love is God ... love is the basis of all ‘commandments’ ... we ‘love others as Self.’”

- The Bible (paraphrased)

If God is love, and if love is about growing spirituality so we can deepen our relationship with God, then love's purpose *is* love. And if we are children of God, then *we are love*, too.

Love's Purpose is Love

Since spirit and love are closely linked, perhaps even synonymous, it follows that the purpose of love is love. Perhaps there is no other purpose in life than love.

“Love has no other desire but to fulfill itself.”

- Kahlil Gibran in *The Prophet*

Love is Real, Fear an Illusion

*“Love is what we were born with. **Fear** is what we have learned here. The spiritual journey is the relinquishment – or unlearning – of fear and the acceptance of love back into our hearts. Love is the essential existential fact. It is our ultimate reality and our purpose on earth. To be consciously aware of it, to experience love in ourselves and others, is the meaning of life.”*

- Marianne Williamson in *A Return to Love*

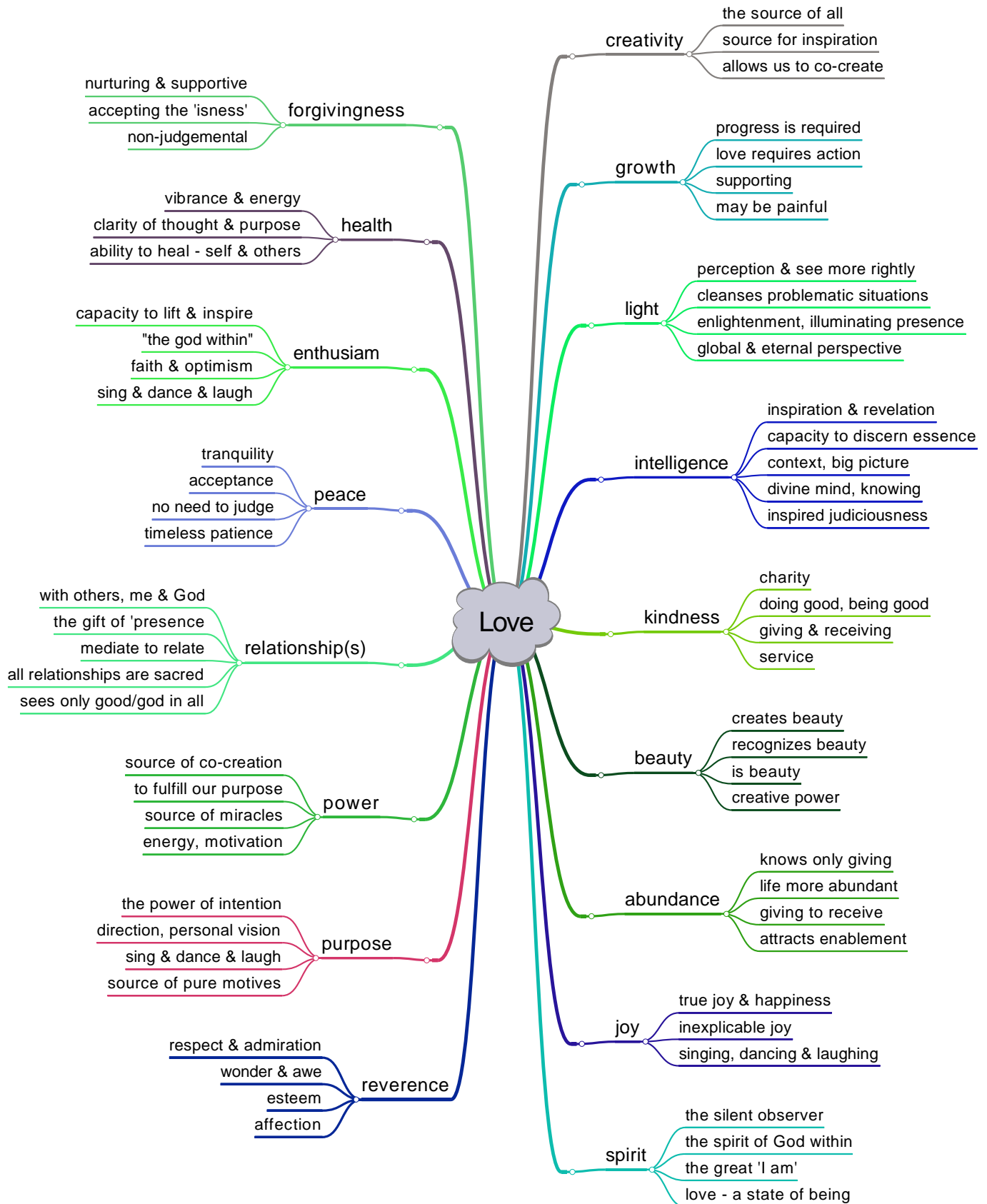
Fear (or its derivative hate) is not the opposite of love, but is the lack of love.

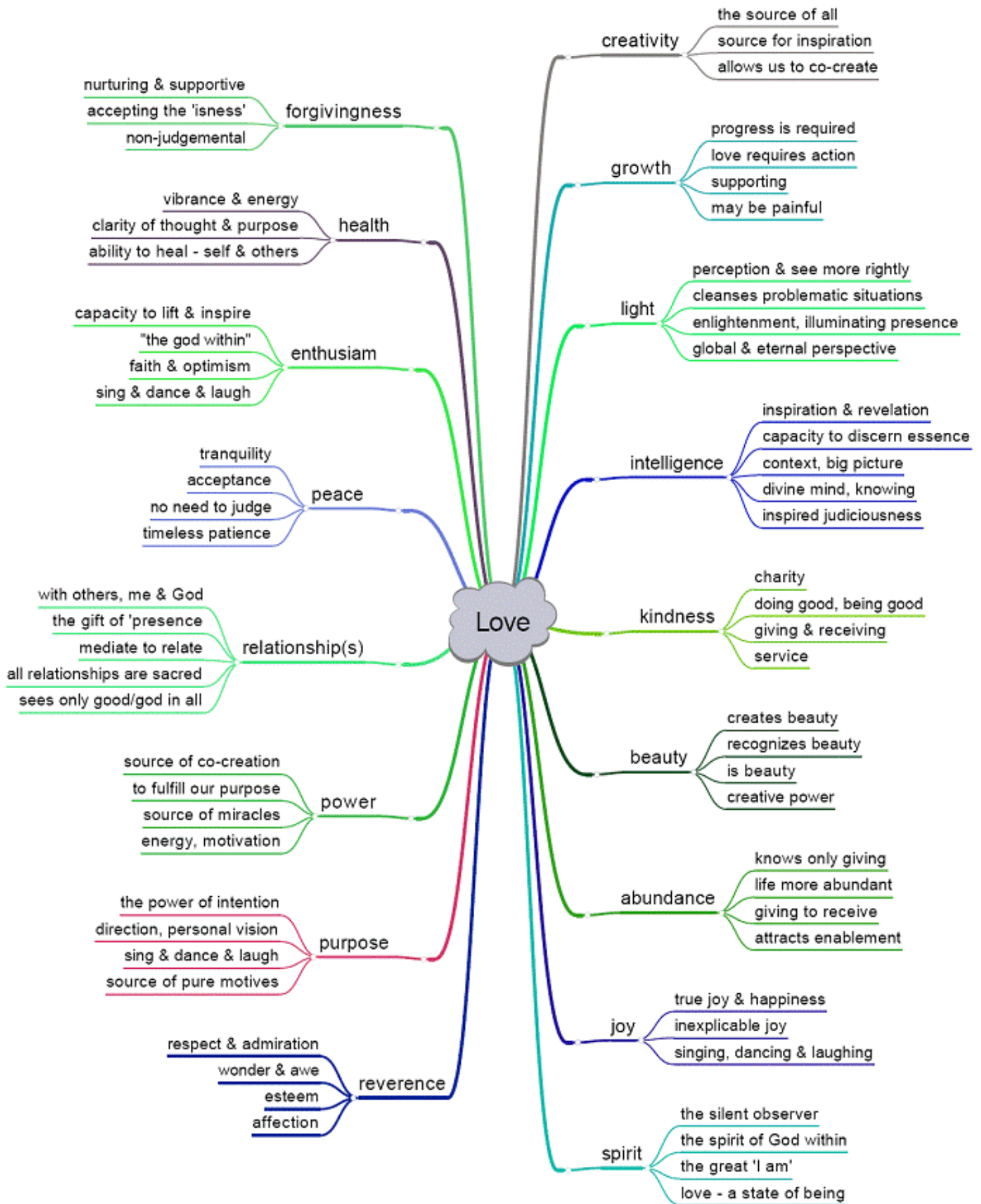
“His Love remains the only thing there is. Fear [everything else] is illusion... Love [is] beyond what can be taught. ... [Love] is your natural inheritance. The opposite of love is fear, but what is all-encompassing [love] can have no opposite.”

- *A Course in Miracles*

A Mind-Map of Love

In early 2005 I spent time reflecting on what love meant for me. The mind-map below was based on [reading](#), reflecting, praying, meditating and writing. This is simply a perspective on love and illustrates how love might be decomposed, given that love is all-encompassing and impossible to decompose.





Love is the universal force which counters [entropy](#). In science, entropy is accepted as a universal

force which causes all things to fall into disarray or lower levels of energy and disorder. If entropy were the only force in the universe, how is it that we exist? We humans seem to be a fairly high level of energy and order. And, what is that “force” which seems to compel us to grow, as individuals, as organizations and as humanity?

Love is the force which compels us all to grow.

It seems like *growth* (or love) is not an option – for people, communities, organizations, companies, countries and all of humanity.

As stated earlier: If God is love, and we are children of God, then *we are love*, too. Therefore, *we are* of the force which compels the universe to grow! And:

“Your love is as boundless as His because it is His.”

- A Course in Miracles

Love is all-powerful, ever-present, here and now. *Use it.*

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