

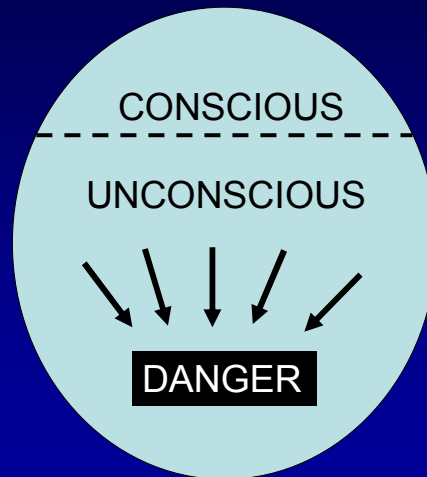
The difficulty of hospice spiritual care

Taiwan, 6 September, 2005

Dr Doug Bridge
Palliative care physician
Royal Perth Hospital and Murdoch
Community Hospice

Review of 2003 conference:
deep wounds

DEEP WOUNDS



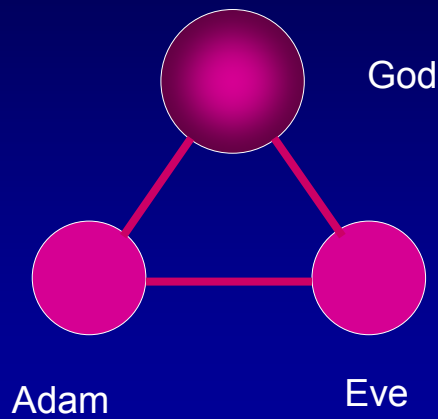
DANGER

DO NOT OPEN

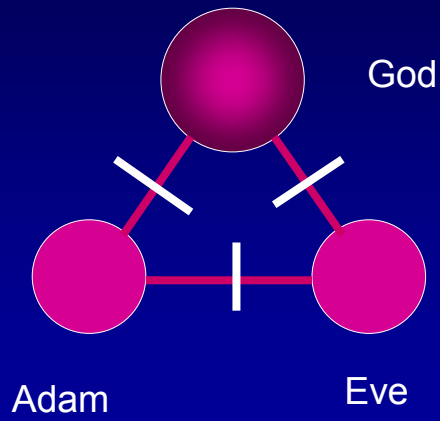
**CONTAINS PAINFUL MEMORIES
OF PAST WOUNDS**

Review of 2004 conference:
The Core Essences of Spiritual Caring

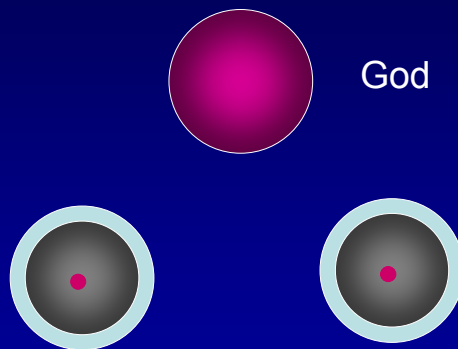
Our relationship with God
at the time of the Creation



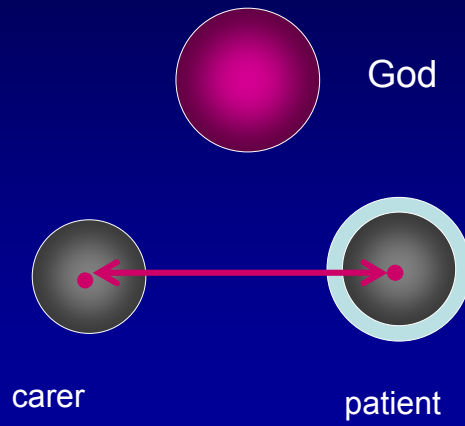
The relationship broken



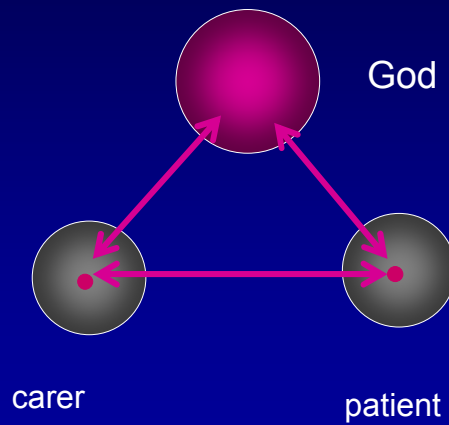
Protective shells



Spiritual care



Spiritual care



Dame Cicely Saunders
Founder of the modern hospice movement
1918 – 2005

“...she knew what God had called her to do, which was to build a home for dying people, where scientific knowledge should be combined with care and love.”

Died in St Christopher's Hospice July 14, 2005

University of Western Australia

School of medicine

Curriculum committee meeting, March 2005

Decided that spirituality should be taught to all medical students as part of the curriculum

The difficulty of hospice spiritual care

- No clear definition of spiritual care
- No clear model
- The problem of money and time
- Understanding spiritual growth
- Healing the dark side within
- Viktor Frankl DVD

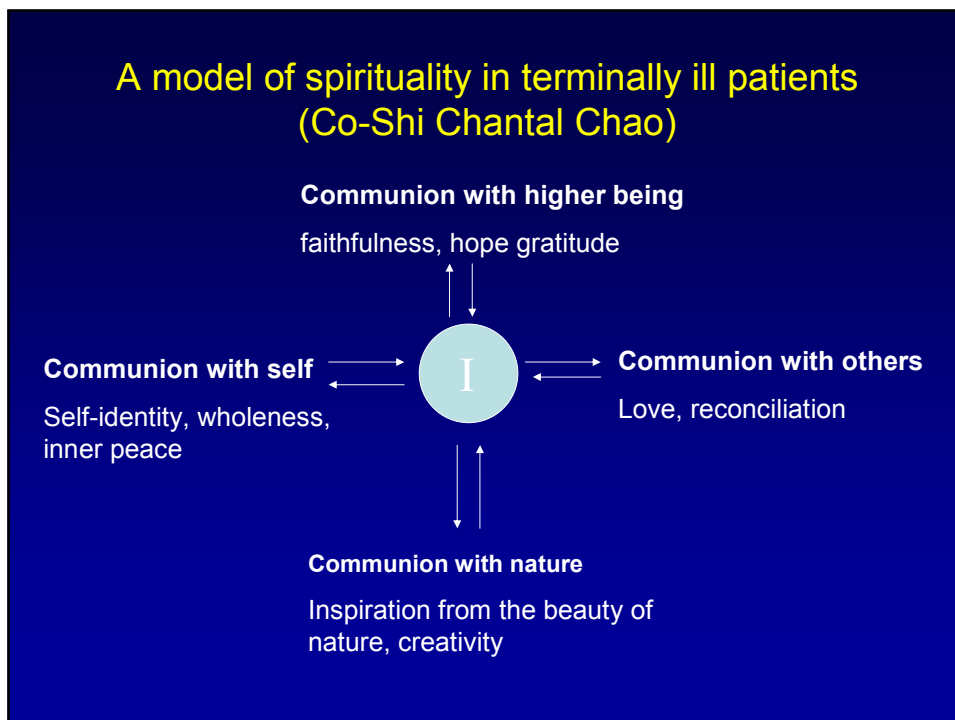
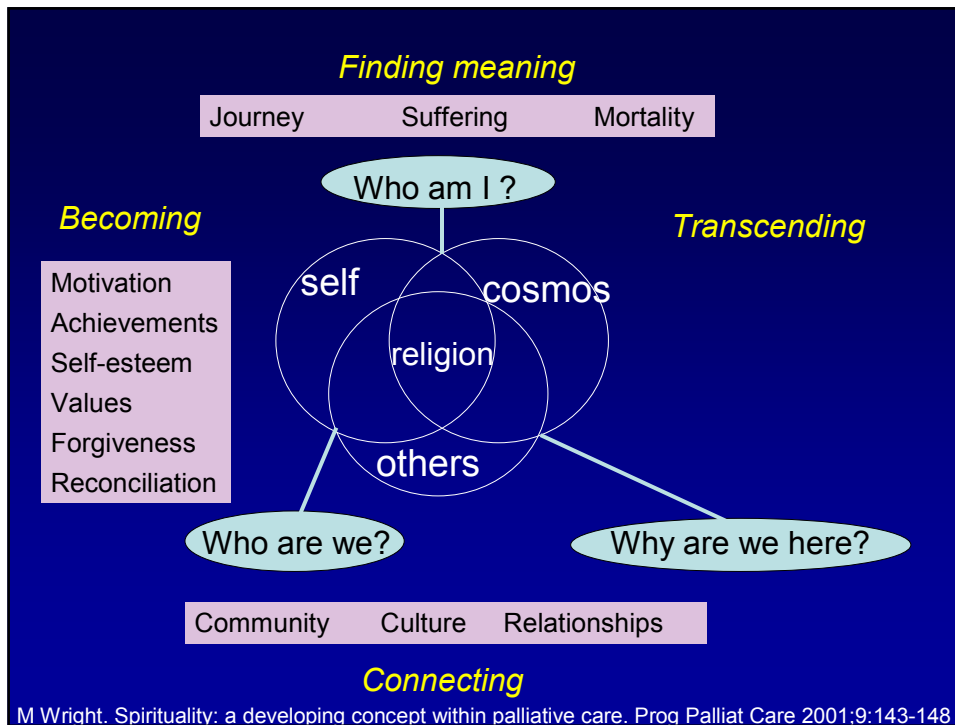
Spirituality - model

Michael Wright. Spirituality: a developing
concept within Palliative Care
Progress in Palliative Care 2001; 9: 143-148

- Hospices arose in a Christian context
- But non-religious patients demonstrate similar needs to their religious counterparts: for love, for meaning, for forgiveness and for transformation
- Every person is a spiritual being

The challenge:

How to acknowledge the Christian tradition of hospice while at the same time demonstrating equity towards spiritualities expressed through other religions or none



“When good things go bad”

The demon in money is greed

The demon in sex is lust

The demon in power is pride

Richard Foster: Money Sex and Power, 1985

“... the super-wealthy, who really have
nothing to gain by more money,
still seek it furiously”

Time is money;
spiritual care takes a lot of time;
spiritual care is too expensive
– we cannot afford it

Normal spiritual growth

- Human beings show normal growth and development: physically, intellectually, socially, psychologically.
- Is there a normal pattern of spiritual growth? James Fowler says yes.

Stages of faith. The psychology of human development and the quest for meaning. 1981

Good and evil

Alexander Solzhenitsyn

(Russian Nobel prize winner)

“The line which separates good from evil
passes through the centre of every human
heart”

(Gulag Archipelago)

Dark and light, good and evil
are part of our nature



We cannot erase the dark side, it must be
acknowledged, and transformed



Generosity or pride?
It is what is inside the heart that matters



Do not make a big show of it (Matthew 6:2)

Three film clips from the DVD

“The choice is yours”

- 1 Dr Balfour Mount, Founder of Palliative Care in Canada, talking about his experience as a cancer patient
- 2 Staff conference with Dr Balfour Mount and his palliative care team, discussing a patient with prostate cancer
- 3 Dr Viktor Frankl: finding meaning
Dr Edwin Cassem: three cancer patients