

## GLIMPSE

### A New G.P.S.

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When we are lost in our journeys, we are most noticing, most sense-abled. We look for signs, some indications of where we are in terms of where we would like to be. Global Positioning Systems are taking away the experience of being uncertain. We don't have to look around very much, just listen or look at the screen. We become entitled to certainty, but this reliance on the screen or speaker diminishes attentiveness and the experiencing of mystery. Being lost is a large part of spirituality.

G.P.S. could also stand for a God Pondering Spirituality, which guarantees attentiveness, awareness and a growing delight in being lost. We can think we know where we are and how we are doing. This is a security and a comfort. We become so accustomed to that comfort in our relationships, we want exact coordinates. At the center of every healthy friendship or love relationship exists mystery! We never, ever have that same exact awareness of where we are and how we are doing. This is because each of us, at our deepest, is a mystery. People will say to me, "I can't figure him/her out". I'd say that is a compliment and ought to be the very center of the relationship. The problem, of course, is that we want the secure, solid, and predictable relationships which then results in boredom and distance.

We are caught then between the very two things so important to us. We love some kind of mystery/discovery and absolute okayness. That is our basic tension.

Healthy relationships grow deeper to the degree there is the awareness and attentiveness that derives from being lost-a-bit. It is very good to watch for signs and indications, sense-abled living. When my mother was upset, we did not know it until we heard cabinet doors

slamming in the kitchen. My brothers and I would look at each other to find out who did what and who was to go out to the sink-confessional. It did not take much sense-ability to find out which way the wind was blowing and who caused the storm. In this practice my mother was predictable as was her gentle forgiving. Being lost in love is wonderful and staying in love depends on staying somehow lost.

And then there is this God, Ultimate Mystery with whom we will never know how we're doing, or where we are, or where this unlocatable Someone, well, is. If love gets us lost, then so does faith and our God Positioning System is inoperable. The leap of love and the leap of faith are exactly the same leap in fear. God does not slam doors though, but there are actual signs for those who are sense-able and more inclined to attentive wandering. We never will find God, God is not the one who is lost. It's just a glimpse.