



The Aspirational Dimension

Navigating the deep architecture of human desire.



What do you want?



DESIGN.

A desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

Desire is a divine feature, not a human flaw.

The Will •

God created your will, loves it, and intends for you to have powerful aspirations.

Truth •

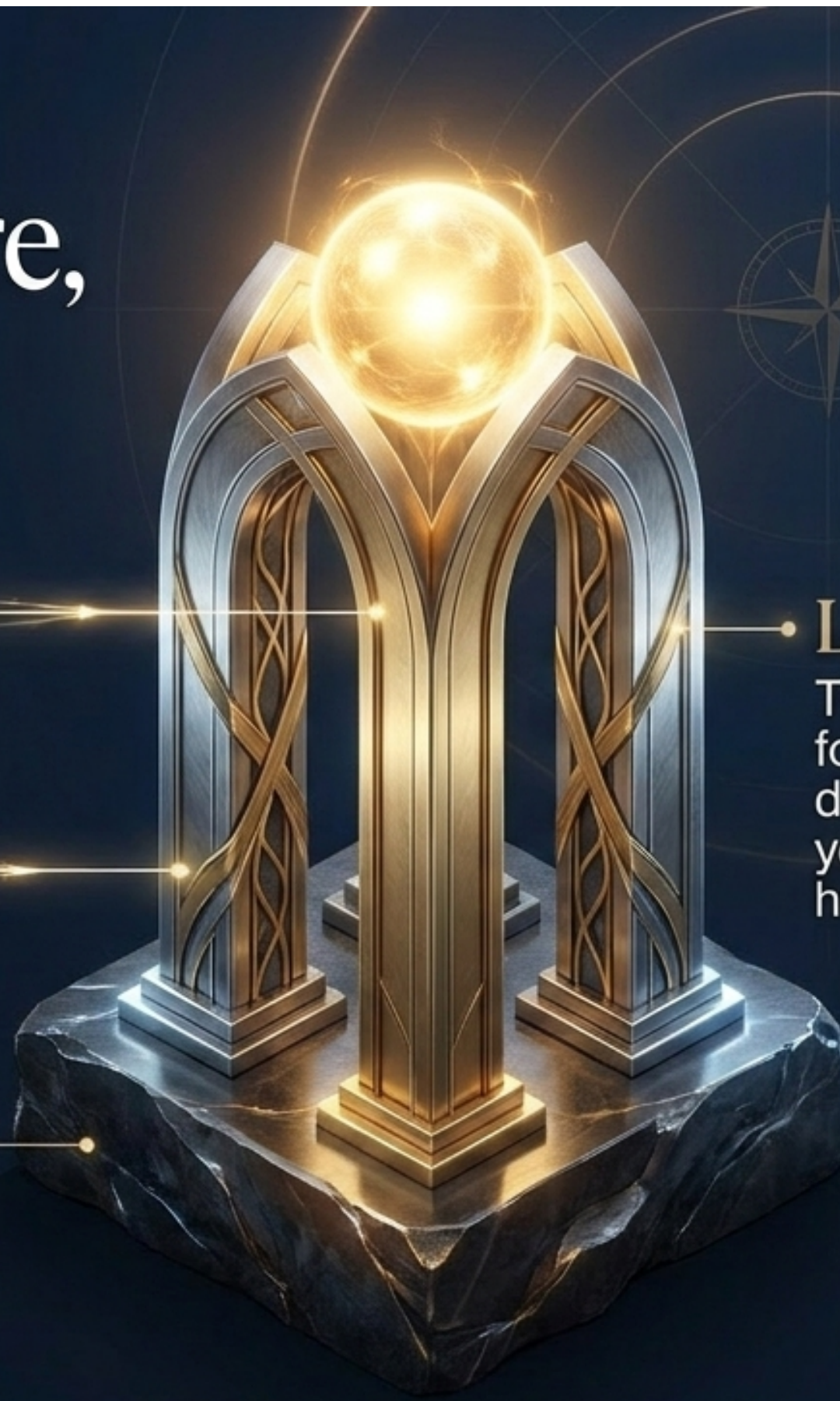
The boundary that keeps the will grounded in reality and spiritual maturity.

Bedrock •

Bedrock foundation, loves it, and intends for you to have powerful aspirations.

Love •

The gravitational force that ensures desires benefit both you and your fellow human beings.



The biblical psychology of human longing.

The Mandate

Desire is essential.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness..."

(Matthew 5:6)

The Reality

Unmet desire hurts; fulfilled desire brings life.

"Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life."

(Proverbs 13:12)

The Promise

God actively satisfies aligned desires.

"Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

(Psalm 37:4-6)



DISCONNECT.

The pull of deceitful desires.

In an imperfect world, the compass breaks.



“To put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires...”

— Ephesians 4:22–24

Key Takeaway: Sin introduces magnetic interference. We live in a world where desires deceive us into pointing away from True North.

Two responses to the pain of human desire.

The Buddha

The Core Problem:
Desire itself is the root of all pain.

The Prescription:
Extinguish the desire.
Want nothing.

The Compass Metaphor:
Break the compass entirely.

The Scriptures

The Core Problem:
Misaligned desire is the root of all pain.

The Prescription:
Redirect the desire.
Want the right thing.

The Compass Metaphor:
Recalibrate the compass to True North.

The Augustine Paradigm

Love God and do what you want.

— *St. Augustine*

Freedom is not the absence of desire. Freedom is a powerfully active will perfectly aligned with divine love.

The Pharisee Trap: Behavior is not enough.

Ungodly Means
Using people, manipulating
rules, maintaining power.

Godly End
The outward appearance
of righteousness.

Ungodly Desire
Pride, control, ego,
self-worship.

Key Takeaway: Pursuing a godly end by an ungodly means reveals an ungodly desire. God cares about the root, not just the result.

God doesn't just want you to do what you want—
He wants to change what you want.



The Engine

*...it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.”
(Philippians 2:12-13)*

The Operation


*“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”
(Ezekiel 36:26-27)*

You are doing
what you want.

mp9f Λ0η M9Uf

to d 91c 00W8

The Behavioral Engine: You are doing what you want.



The diagram features a central iceberg with a glowing golden top and a dark blue, faceted base. A horizontal line separates the visible surface from the submerged parts. Three callout lines with circular endpoints point to the top, middle, and bottom sections of the iceberg. The background consists of a dark blue field with faint, concentric circular lines and a grid pattern.

Visible Surface:

Time, Talent, and Treasure.
(What we actually do).

Sub-surface:

Unconscious Prioritization.
(The silent choices we make
when desires compete).

Deep Bedrock:

Root Desire.
(The hidden engine).

The Hard Truth:

Even if it doesn't feel like it, there is a
desire at the base of every behavior.
You are living out your priorities
whether you realize it or not.

TIME

**TRUE
DESIRE**

TALENT

TREASURE

The Diagnostic Audit

1. Observe the Surface

Track exactly where your time, talent, and treasure flowed this week.



2. Unearth the Root

Ask, "What underlying desire drove those specific investments?"



Path A: Aligned


Does the desire align with God's truth and love?

Pursue it.

Path B: Misaligned

Does the desire conflict with God's design?

Invite the Holy Spirit to shift it.



Relationships
(Love Shifts Us)

THE FORGE

Consequences
(Reality Dispels Illusions)

The Journey of Human Longing



1. Divine Blueprint

Desire created as a gravitational pull toward love.



2. The Distortion

The compass is warped by a fallen world and deceitful desires.



3. The Recalibration

Relationships and consequences, powered by the Spirit, break the heart of stone.



4. Mature Alignment

The heart of flesh locks onto True North; we are free to “Love God and do what you want.”



The Invitation

Do not fear your desires. Audit your behavior, face your misalignments, and invite the Spirit into the deep architecture of your will.