

Navigating Life in a World of Unlimited Options

technologies

What might technologies... do?



What might technologies... *undo*?



An iPhone is shown on the left, an iPad in the center, an iPod on the top right, and a laptop on the bottom right. The background is a dark gradient.

What might technologies... *undo*?

(consider not only what they do *for* us,
but also what they do *to* us)

How are worldviews formed?
(what are *characteristics* of the process?)

How are worldviews formed?
(what are ***characteristics of the process?***)

‘stories’ of our lives
informally

what said, seen, heard, participated in
unconsciously, unaware



Technological devices
(e.g., computer, cell phone, iPad, etc.) are
not merely neutral, utilitarian tools or
means of communication...



Technological devices
(e.g., computer, cell phone, iPad, etc.) are
not merely neutral, utilitarian tools or
means of communication...

they generate ways of perceiving the world



Dr. Michael Wesch

KANSAS STATE

UNIVERSITY



“the explainer”



Dr. Michael Wesch

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY



Two years studying the impact of writing on oral cultures



Two years studying the impact of writing on oral cultures

"Namba Tok"

RELATION OF THE MINIMUM BASE FIGURE FOR LOCAL-LEVEL GOVERNMENT AND VILLAGE SERVICES GRANT.

Minimum base figure for Local-level Government and Village Services Grant.
 Minimum figure for Local-level Government activities, in relation to a province and to a district, means the amount calculated in accordance with the formula:-

$$(F) + (AB + YZ + SR) \text{ multiply by } 1 + C; \text{ or}$$

$$D + (AB + YZ + SR) \text{ plus or minus D}$$

Where:-

- F = Conditional Complementary Support Grant as provided for in Section 95, and
- A = Total population of the province, and
- B = Minimum figure of K20.00 per head of population, and
- Y = Square kilometre of total land mass in the province, and
- Z = Minimum figure of K20.00 per square kilometre of the land mass, and
- S = Effective sea area expressed in square kilometres, and
- R = Minimum figure of K20.00 per square kilometre of the effective sea area in the province, and
- C = The equitable factor, as provided for in Section 96, expressed as a percentage, and
- D = An equitable factor, as provided for in Section 96, expressed as an absolute kina amount.



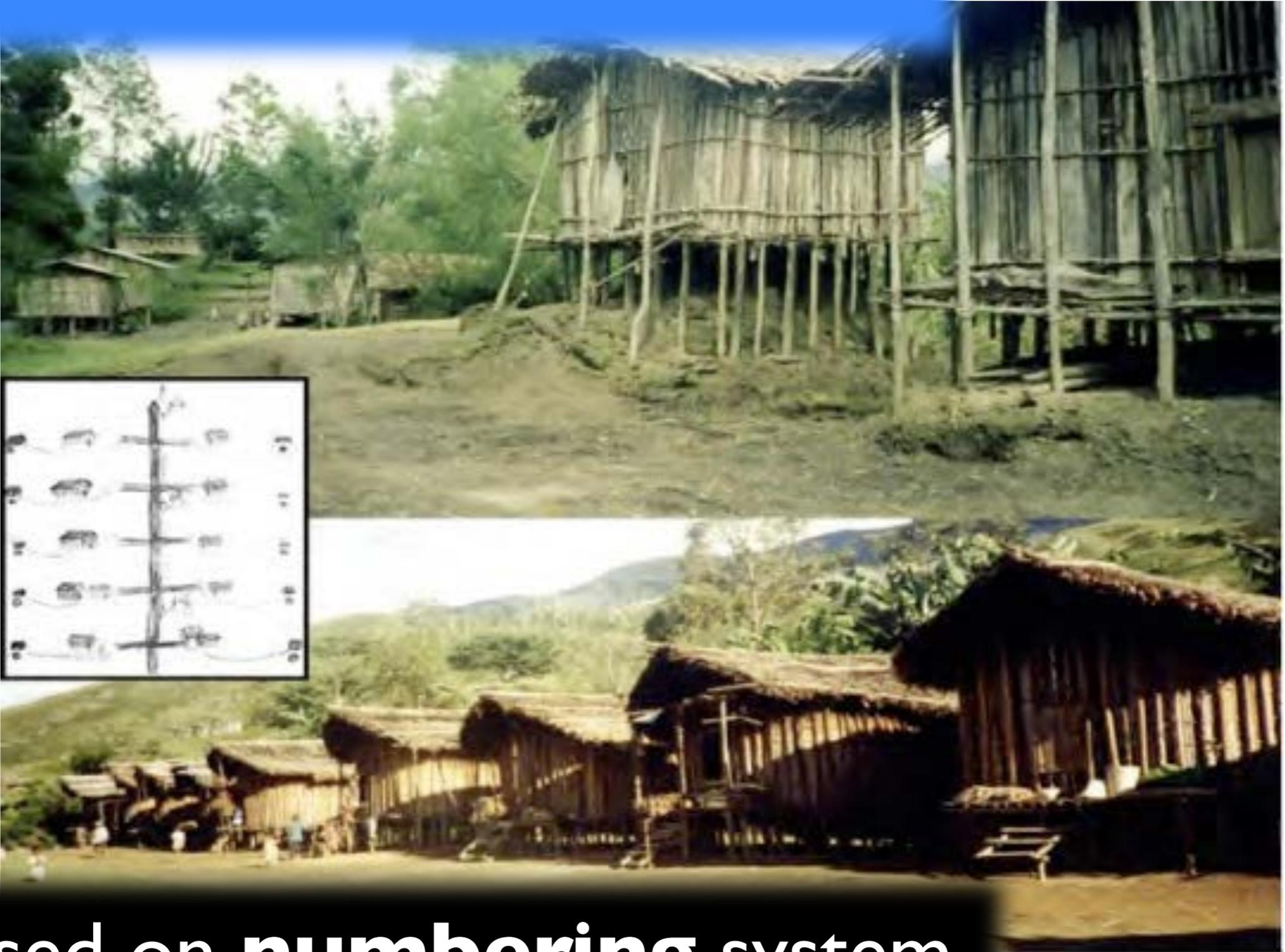
PROVINCE	CENSUS DIVISION	CENSUS UNIT	Province	CD	CU	F	CD	CU
				01				
				02				
				03	JEL			
				04	ELU			
				05	GILO			
				06	ERIKELIC		1584	05
002	01	MARBENYAP	TALIKINI	M	1950	01		
	02	SANGU	MARBENYAP	M	17-02-21	05		
	03	LICABET	MARBENYAP	F	11-05-29	05		
	04	WELKI	MARBENYAP	M	21-05-29	05		
003	01	TOKI	TIPNOK	M	1977	01		
	02	MAYONA	TOKI	F	1978	02		
	03	TOKEN	TOKI	M	1981-95	05		
	04	WELSA	TOKI	F	19-08-2005	05		

Two years studying the impact of writing on oral cultures

based on **kin relationships**



based on **kin relationships**



based on **numbering system**

based on **kin relationships**

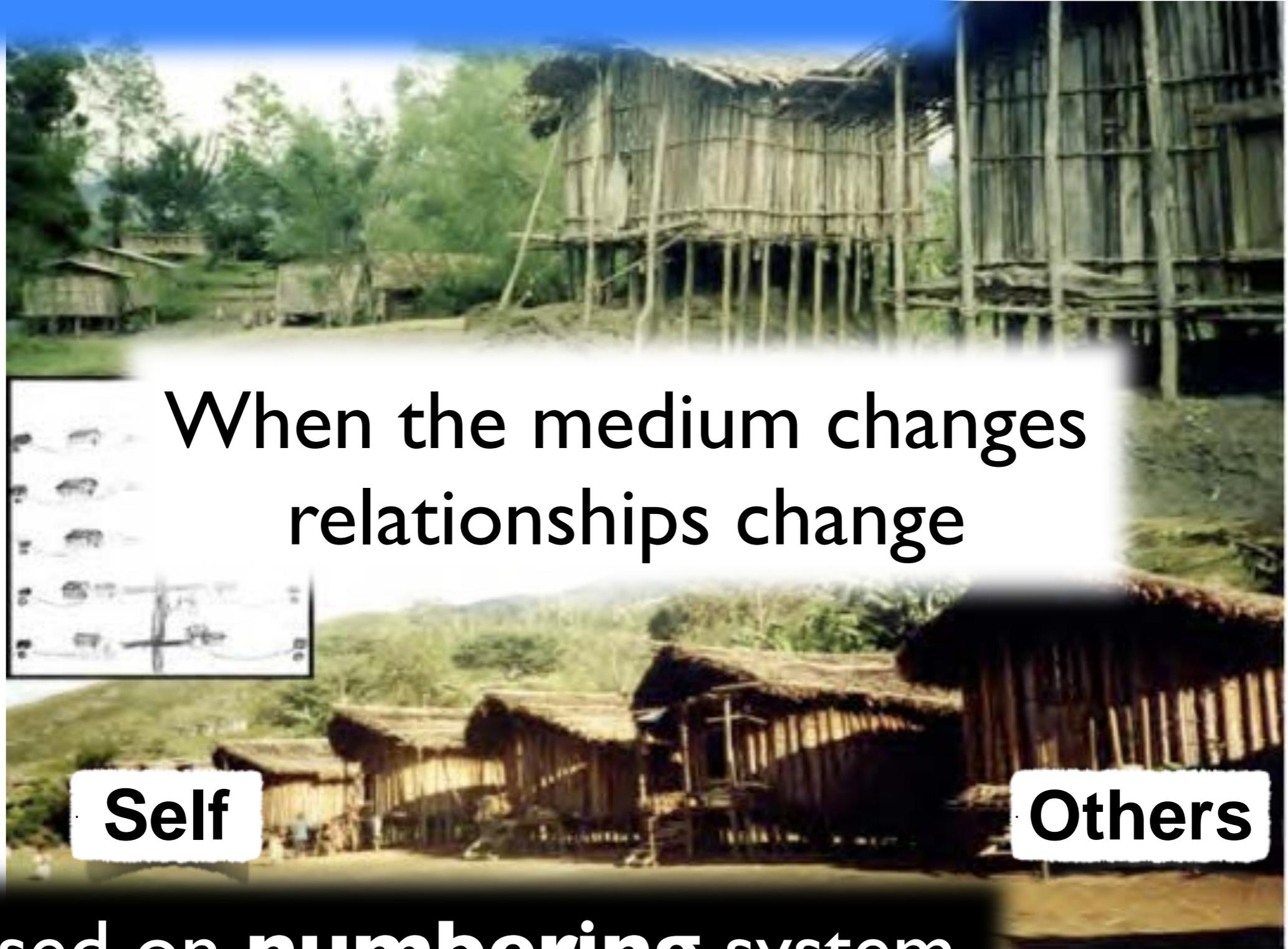


When the medium changes
relationships change



based on **numbering system**

based on **kin relationships**



When the medium changes
relationships change

Self

Others

based on **numbering system**

personal relationships





personal relationships



impersonal code

personal relationships



Others

Self



Ethics/Morals

impersonal code

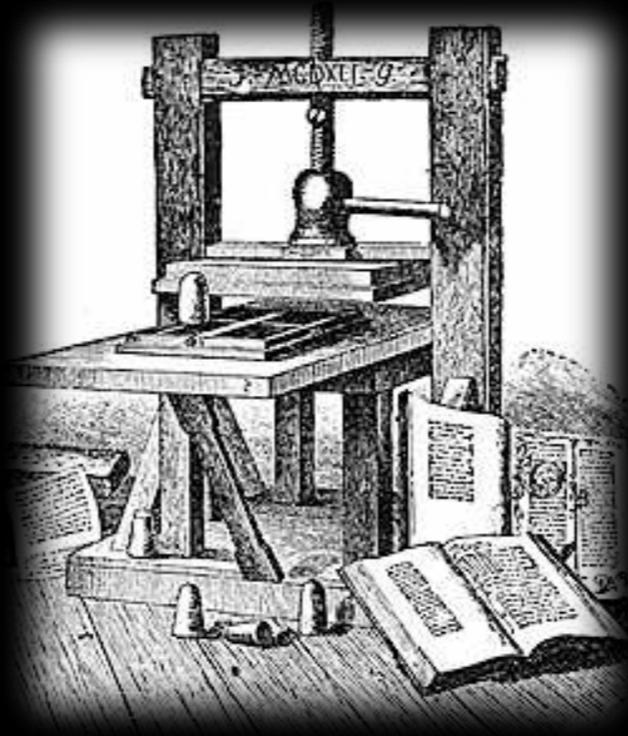
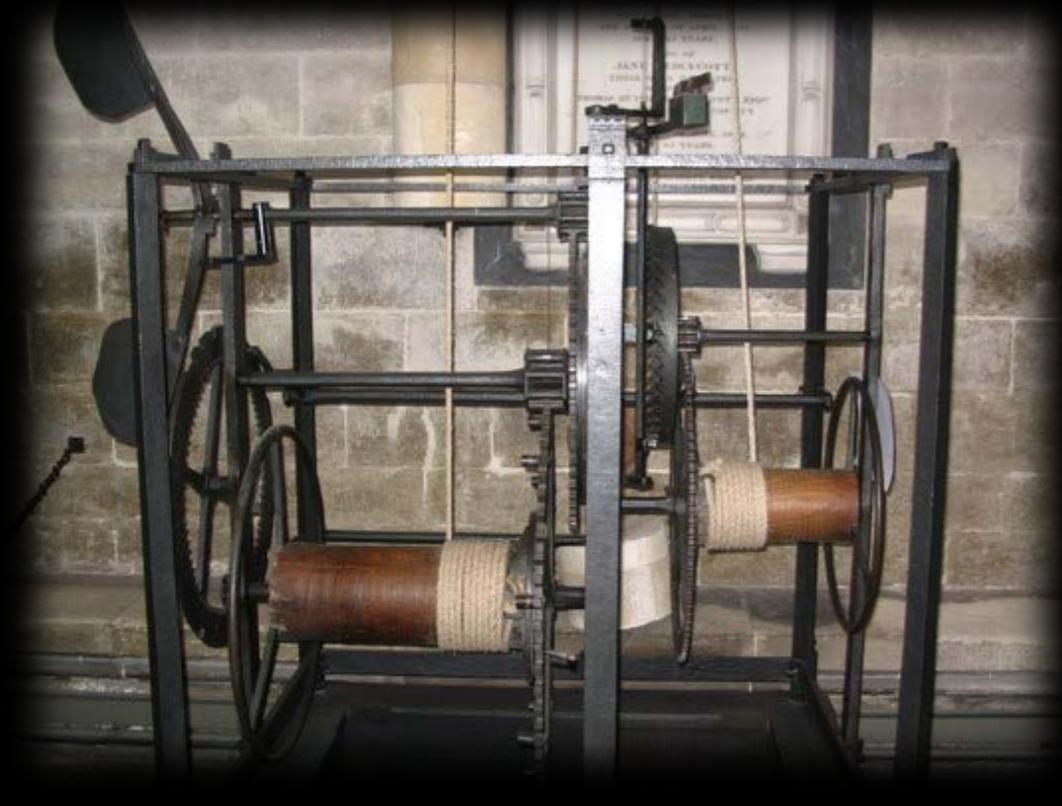
“The clearest way to see through a culture is to attend to its tools for conversation”

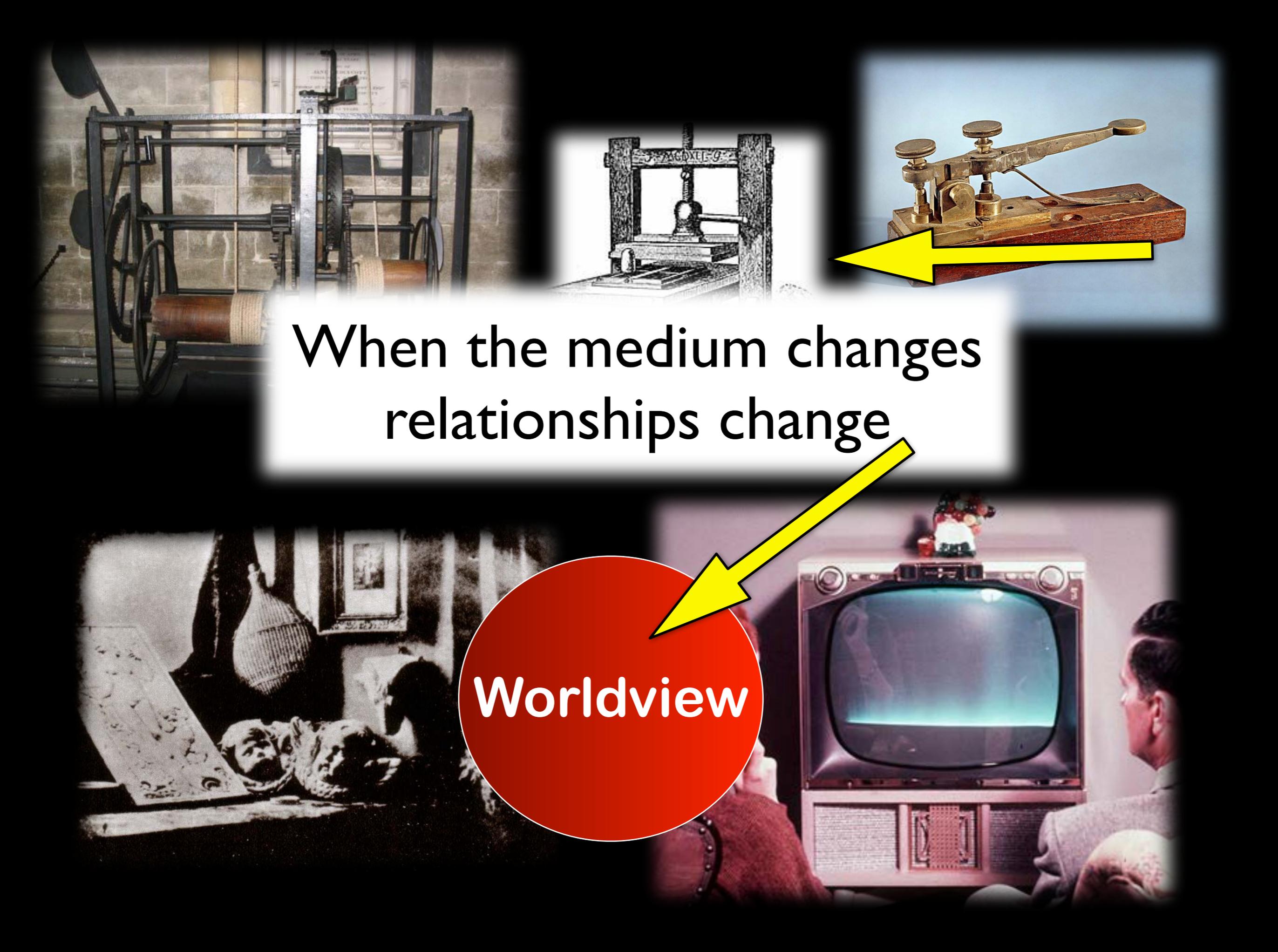
“Each medium, like language itself, makes possible a unique mode of discourse by providing a new orientation for thought, for expression”

Neil Postman

“Societies have always been shaped
more by the nature of the media
by which men communicate
than by the content of the communication”

Marshall McLuhan





When the medium changes
relationships change

Worldview

“Technological change is neither additive nor subtractive. It is ecological.”

“A new technology does not add or subtract something. It makes everything new; one significant change generates total change.”

N. Postman

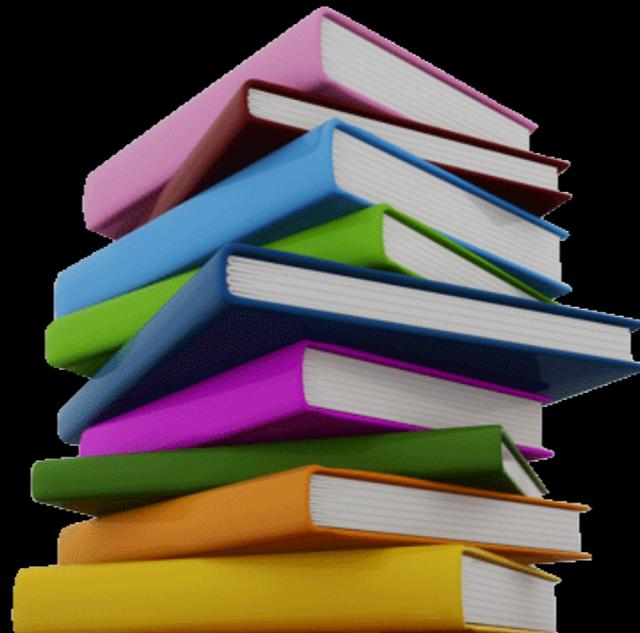
How might we
redeem technology?

“taking every thought (and **usage**)
captive to obey Christ”

2 Cor 10:5



“The media of communication available to a culture are a dominant influence on the formation of the culture’s intellectual and social preoccupations”



Cultural Metanarrative

“The media of communication available to a culture are a dominant influence on the formation of the culture’s intellectual and social preoccupations”

Neil Postman

Worldview

“We shape our tools
and thereafter our tools shape us.”

Marshall McLuhan



24 / 7 / 365



YouTube





“Between commercial messages, texts, emails, Facebook posts, Instagrams, YouTube videos, and more, a student today receives about 1,000 messages every day.”

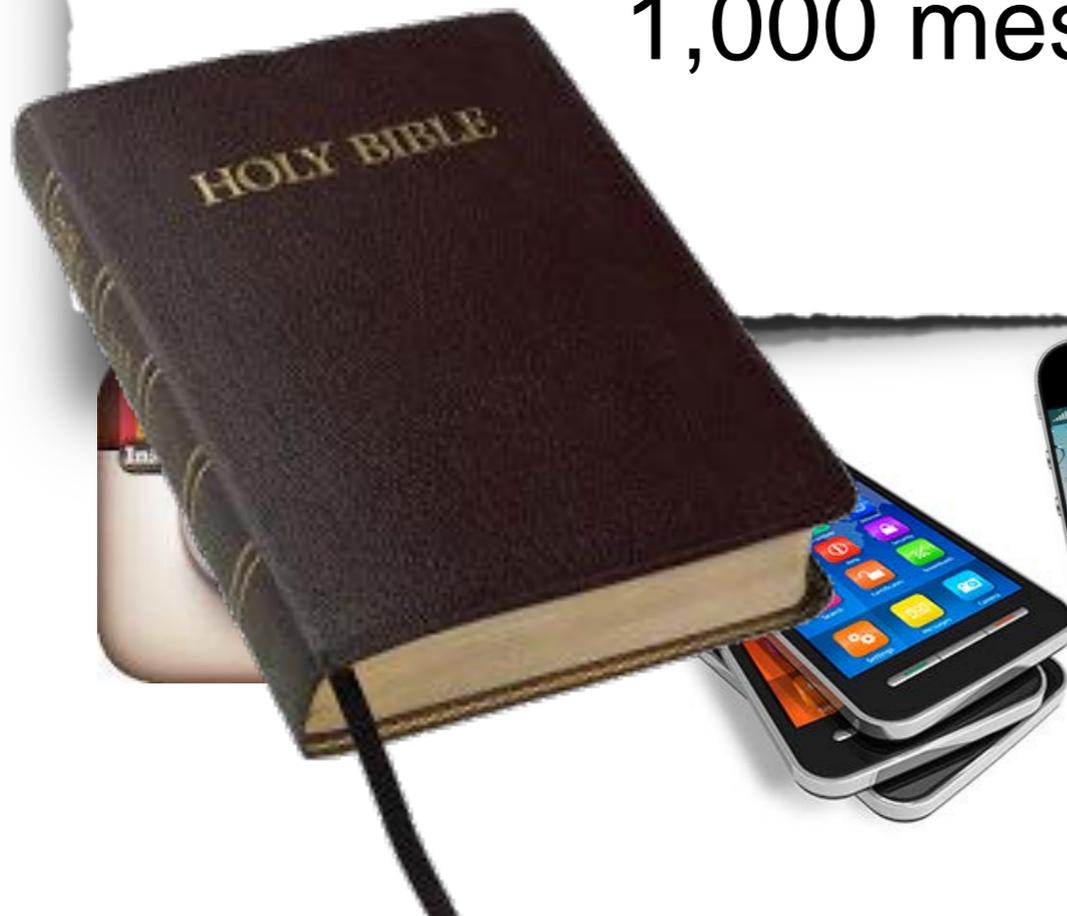
Tim Elmore





“Between commercial messages, texts, emails, Facebook posts, Instagrams, YouTube videos, and more, a student today receives about 1,000 messages every day.”

Tim Elmore



We live in a *mediated* culture

mediated

“dealing with reality *through*
something else”

Thomas de Zengotita

mediated

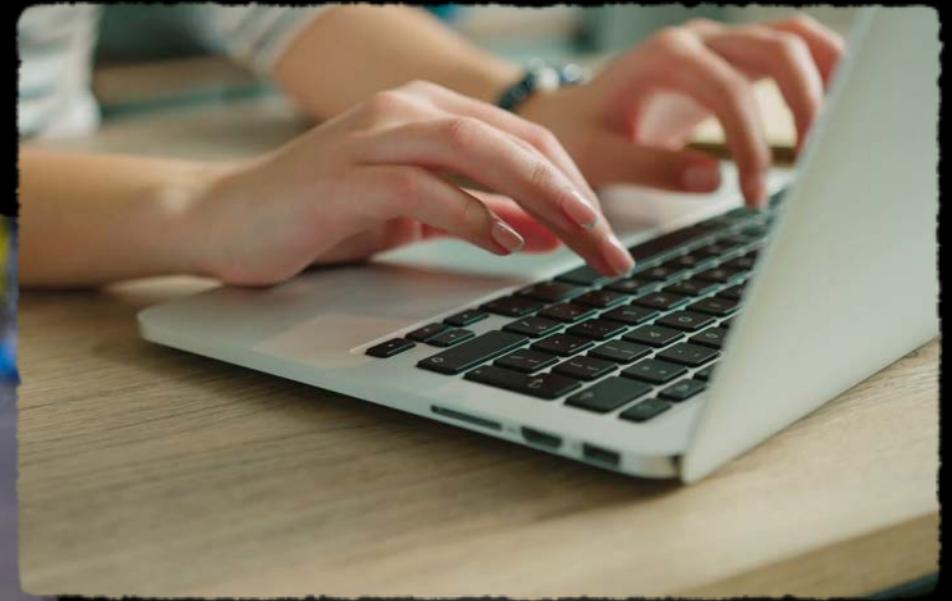
“dealing with reality *through*
something else”

Thomas de Zengotita

one person relating to another person
with something “in between” them

Tim Challies

mediated



one person relating to another person
with something “in between” them

Tim Challies

mediated



the form of the medium controls
what can be said, *who* can say it and
how it can be said

Michael Wesch

“New technologies alter the structure of
our interests:
the things we think *about*.
They alter the character of our symbols:
the things we think *with*.
And they alter the nature of community:
the arena in which thoughts *develop*.”

Neil Postman



“New technologies alter the structure of
our interests:
the things we think *about*.
They alter the character of our symbols:
the things we think *with*.
And they alter the nature of community:
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Neil Postman

“The change is ecological.”

Who **we** are
Who **others** are
What **the nature of those relationships** is

the things we think *about*.

They alter the character of our symbols:

the things we think *with*.

And they alter the nature of community:
the arena in which thoughts *develop*.”

Neil Postman

“The change is ecological.”

EXPECT THE INTERNET.

Face it - you need Wi-Fi. You crave it, sniff it out in public parks and coffee shops, and get irritated when it's not around. We get that. Delta already has the most Wi-Fi equipped planes of any airline, and now we're extending this same service to our regional jets, so that on flights over two hours, you'll be able to stay connected to the precious, life-giving force that is the internet.

DELTA.COM



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We get that.”

new relational *expectations*

emotions

a new *need*; a new *oughtness*

EXPECT THE INTERNET.

Face it - you need Wi-Fi. You crave it, sniff it out in public parks and coffee shops, and get irritated

“Delta already has the most Wi-Fi equipped planes of any airline, and now we’re extending this same service to our regional jets, so that on flights over two hours you’ll be able to stay connected to the precious, life-giving force that is the Internet.”

**The Internet is a precious,
life-giving force**

Wi-Fi
ONBOARD



The real and the representational (i.e., virtual) fuse into...

the **Blob**



Zengotita

The issue is no longer representation verses reality,

phony versus authentic, artificial versus natural...



...in a mediated world, the opposite of real isn't phony or illusional or fictional—



it's *optional*

Thomas de Zengotita

The issue is no longer representation verses reality, phony versus authentic, artificial versus natural...



...in a mediated world, the opposite of real isn't phony or illusional or fictional—



it's ***optional***

Thomas de Zengotita

a singular world of ***unlimited*** options!

On the one hand, it's a party, a feast, an array of possible experiences more fabulous than monarchs of the past could even have dreamed of—it's "whatever," as in yippee!,

as in *whatever* you want, whatever you can imagine; you can...see whatever, hear whatever, read whatever, even *be* whatever. "No limits," as...Internet ads all promise

Thomas de Zengotita

The slang expression “whatever” distills the essential situation into a single gesture...

...as we negotiate the field of options that so incessantly solicit our attention and allegiance.

Thomas de Zengotita

The slang expression “whatever” distills the essential situation into a single gesture
...as we negotiate the field of options that so incessantly solicit our attention and allegiance.

Thomas de Zengotita

always moving

The slang expression “always” distills the essential situation in a gesture...

...as we negotiate the field of options that so incessantly solicit our attention and allegiance.

Faster

Thomas de Zengotita

More

alw

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Faste

More

More

More

More

MORE

“Saying that it’s just more of what we had before is like saying a hurricane is just more breeze”

Thomas de Zengotita

MORE

MORE

More

More

Fast

“The pace of change has become as important as the content of change”

Hybrid Reality

The mediated world is capacious.
Its middle names are Diverse and Inclusive.
There is room for everybody and everything.

Thomas de Zengotita

Entertainment is central

The mediated world is capacious.
Its middle names are Diverse and Inclusive.
There is room for everybody and everything.

Thomas de Zengotita

Engineered for maximum funness.



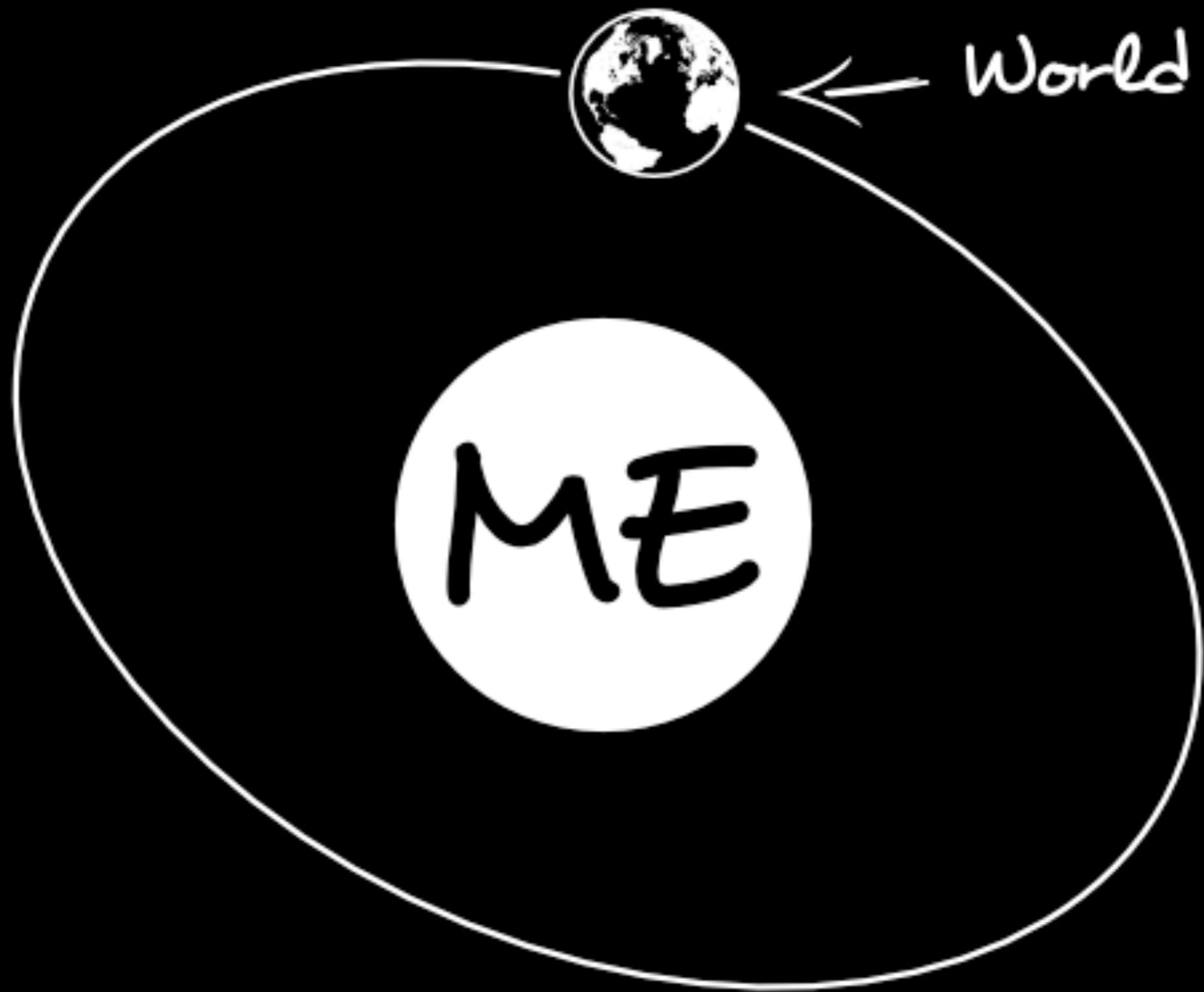
user-generated

a cultural revolution

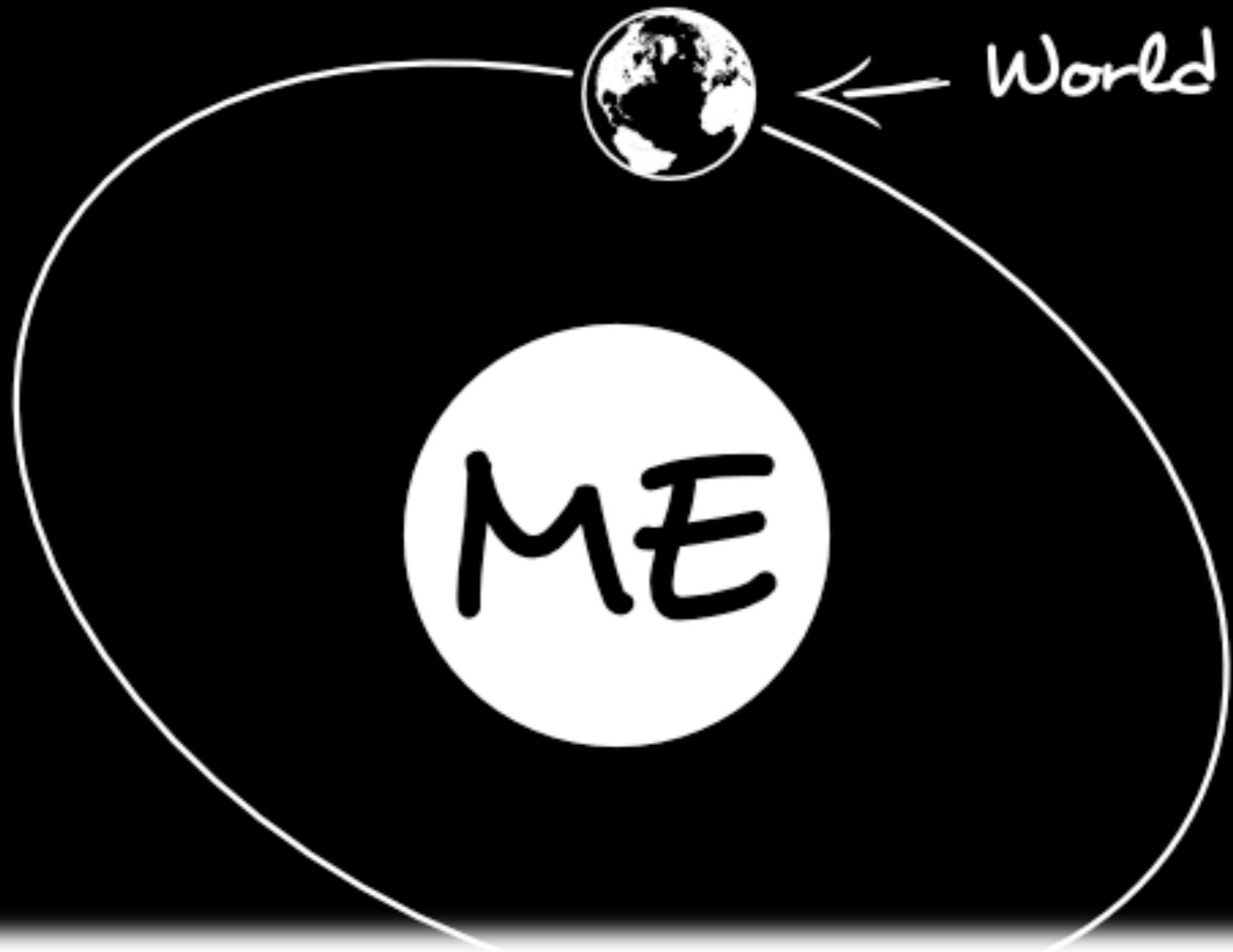
The mediated world is capacious.
Its middle names are Diverse and Inclusive.
There is room for everybody and everything.

“Freedom”

Thomas de Zengotita



As a matter of fact
the world does revolve around ME!



"...people will be lovers
of self..."

Paul (2 Tim 3:2)





4G^{LTE} DROID DNA
by htc

WWW.DROIDDOES.COM

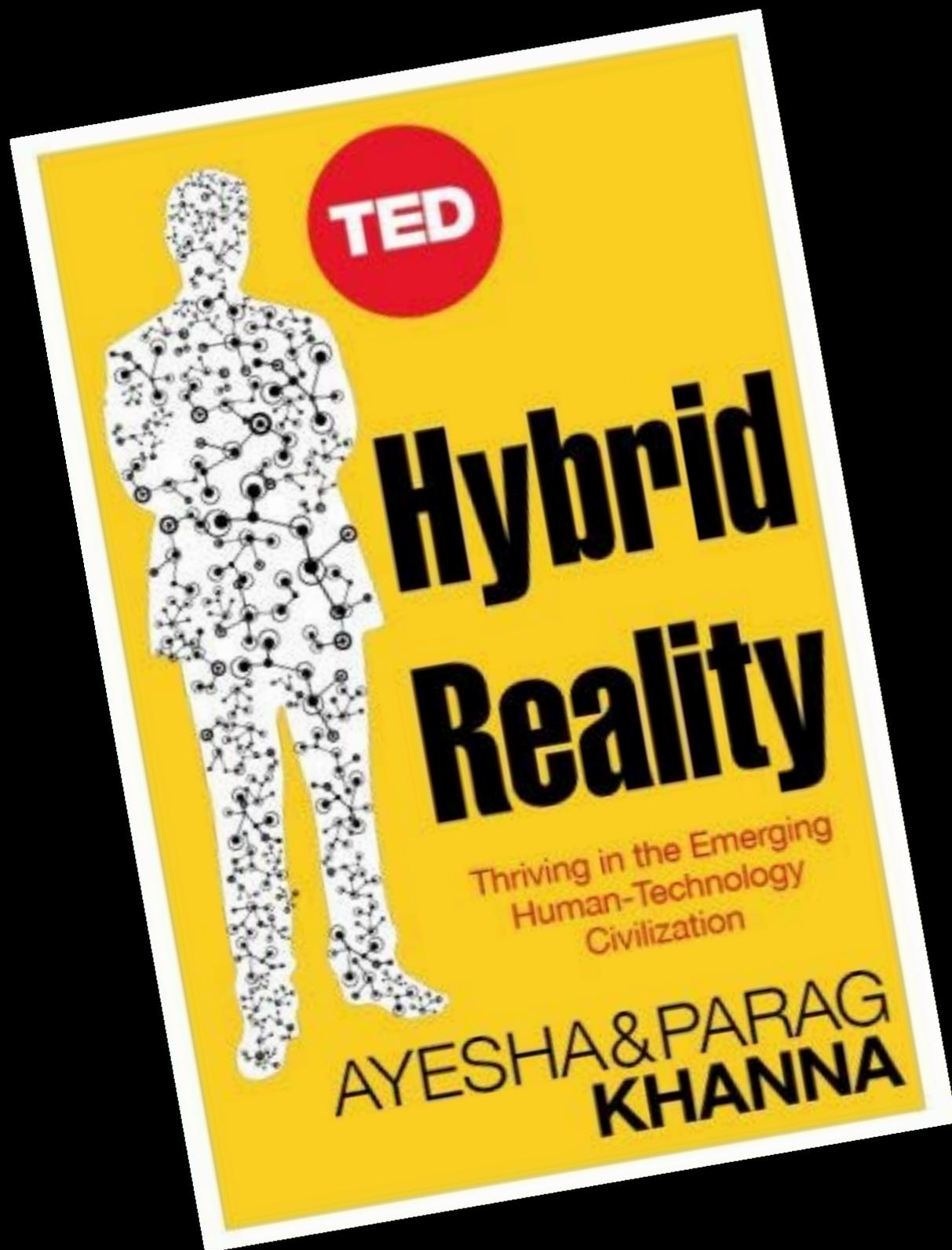
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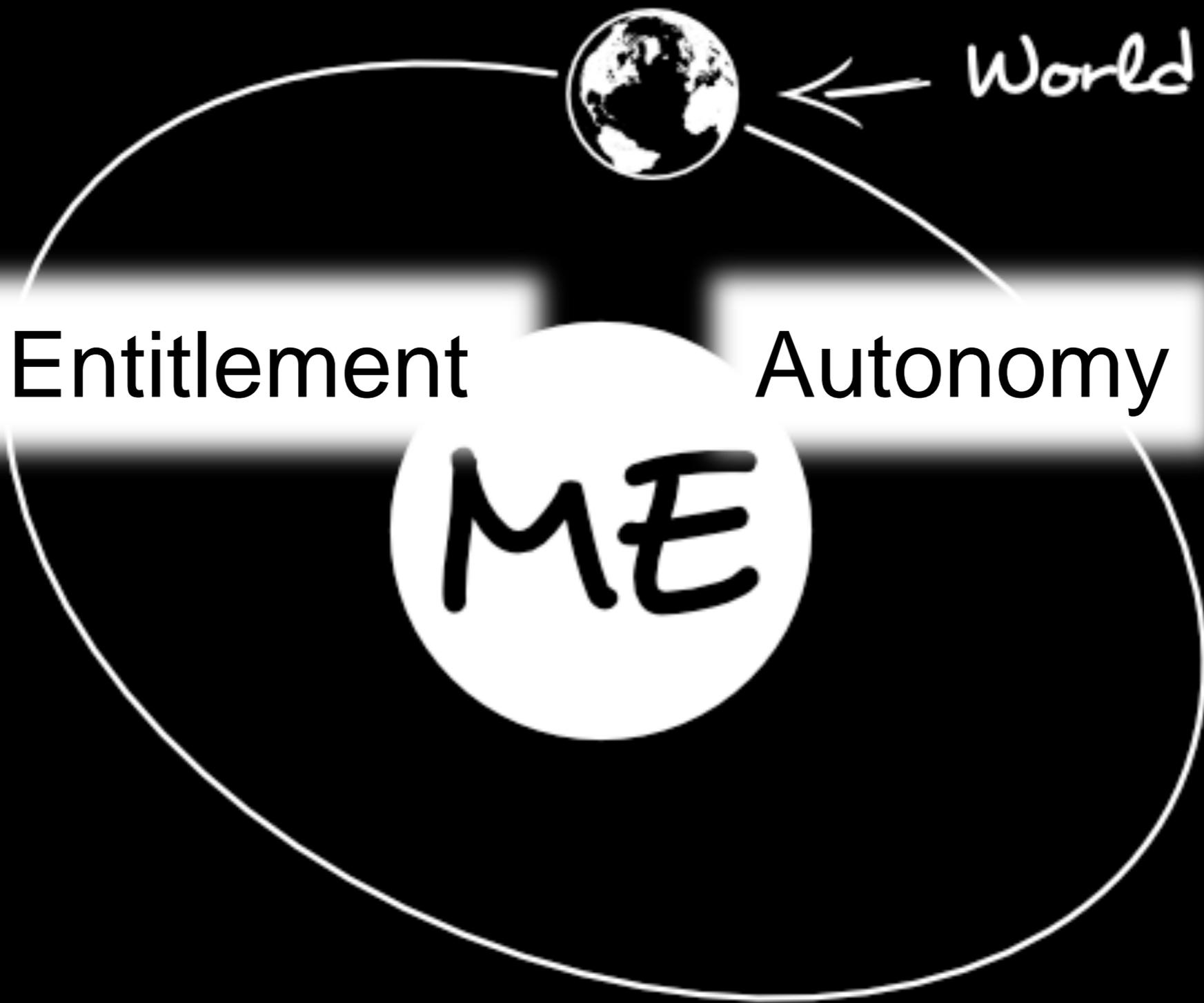
**an upgrade to
yourself**

WWW.DROIDDOES.COM

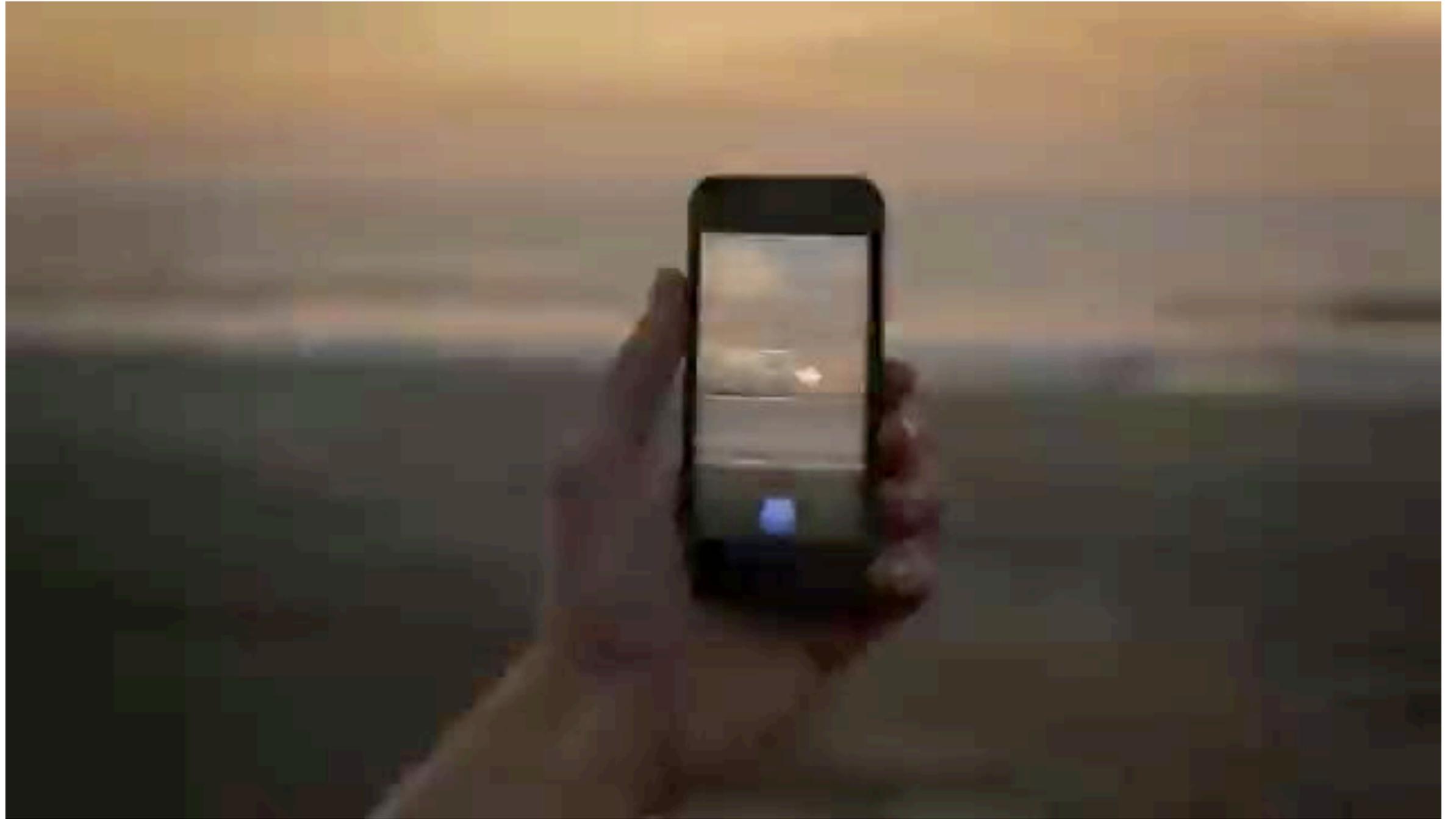
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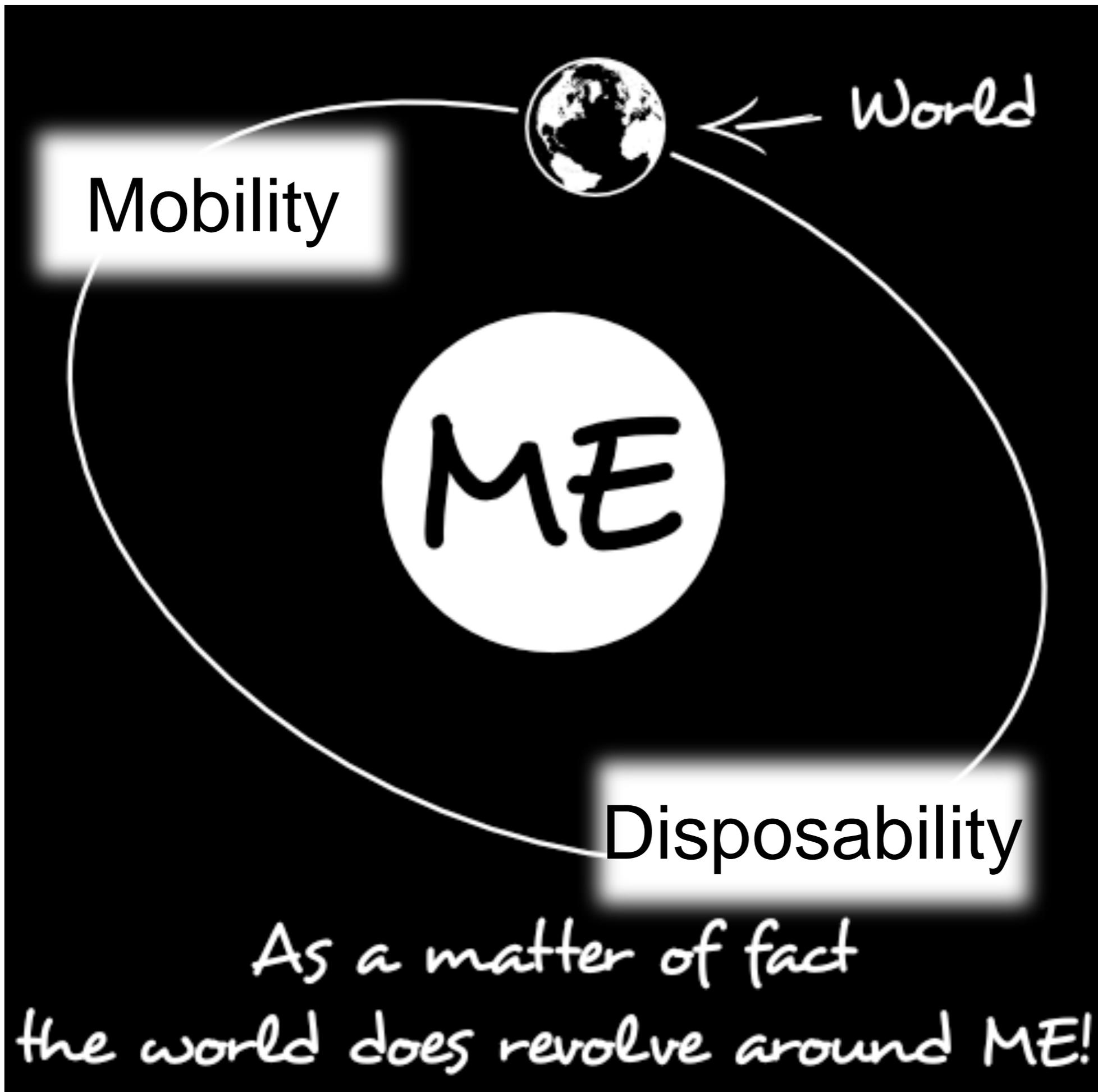
“We don’t just use technology; we absorb it.”

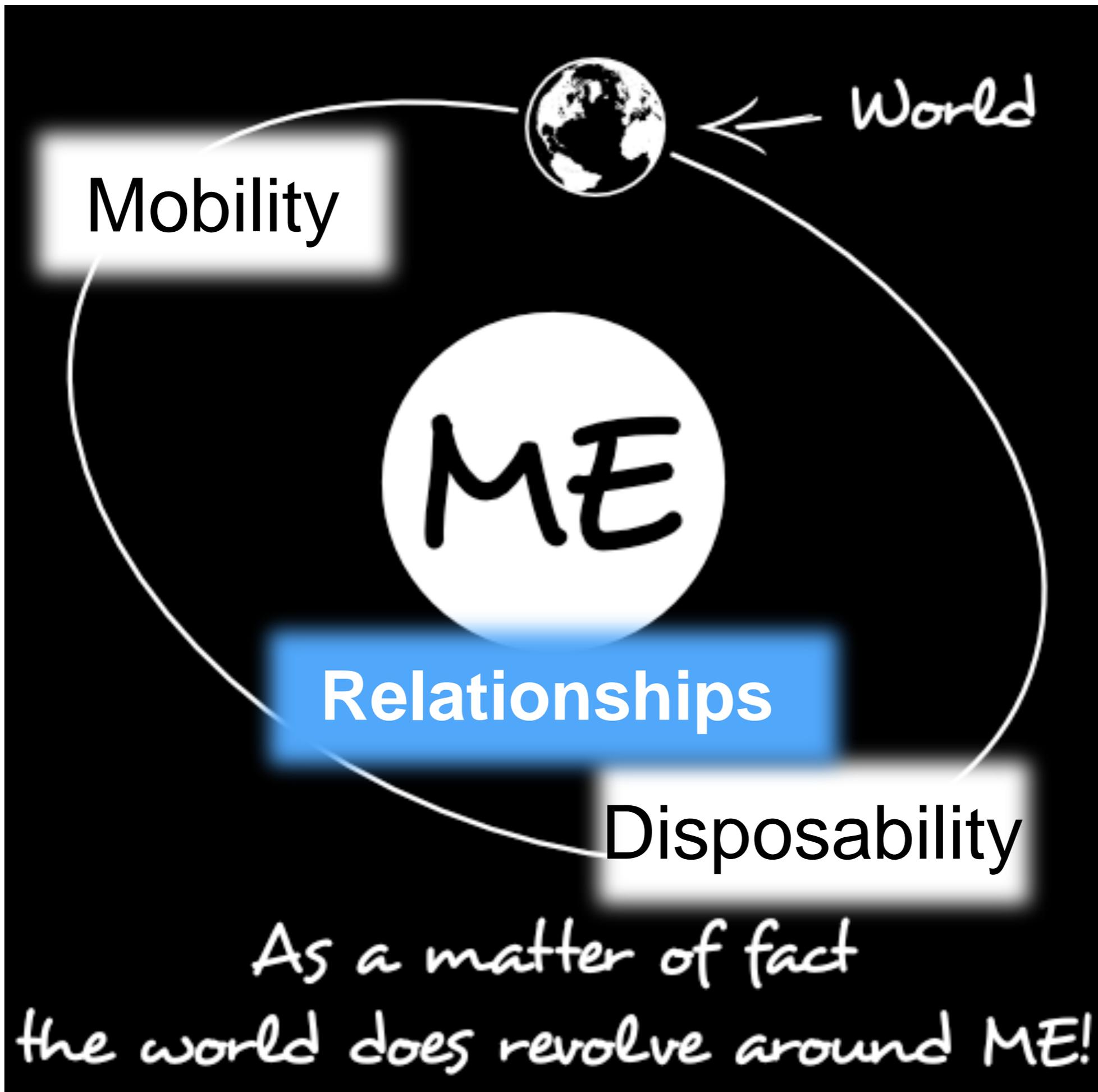


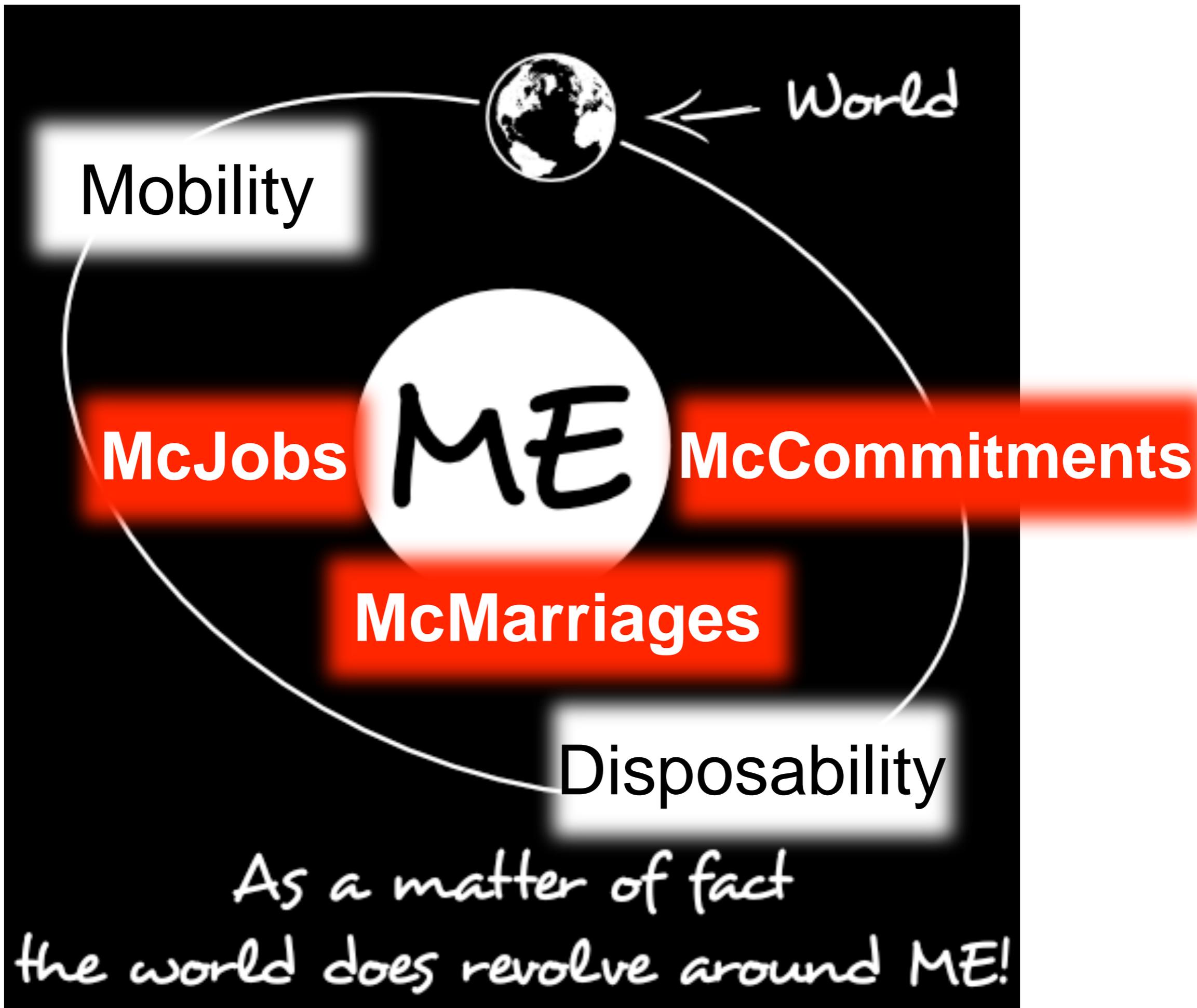
As a matter of fact
the world does revolve around ME!



I am unlimited.







Mobility



World

McJobs

ME

McCommitments

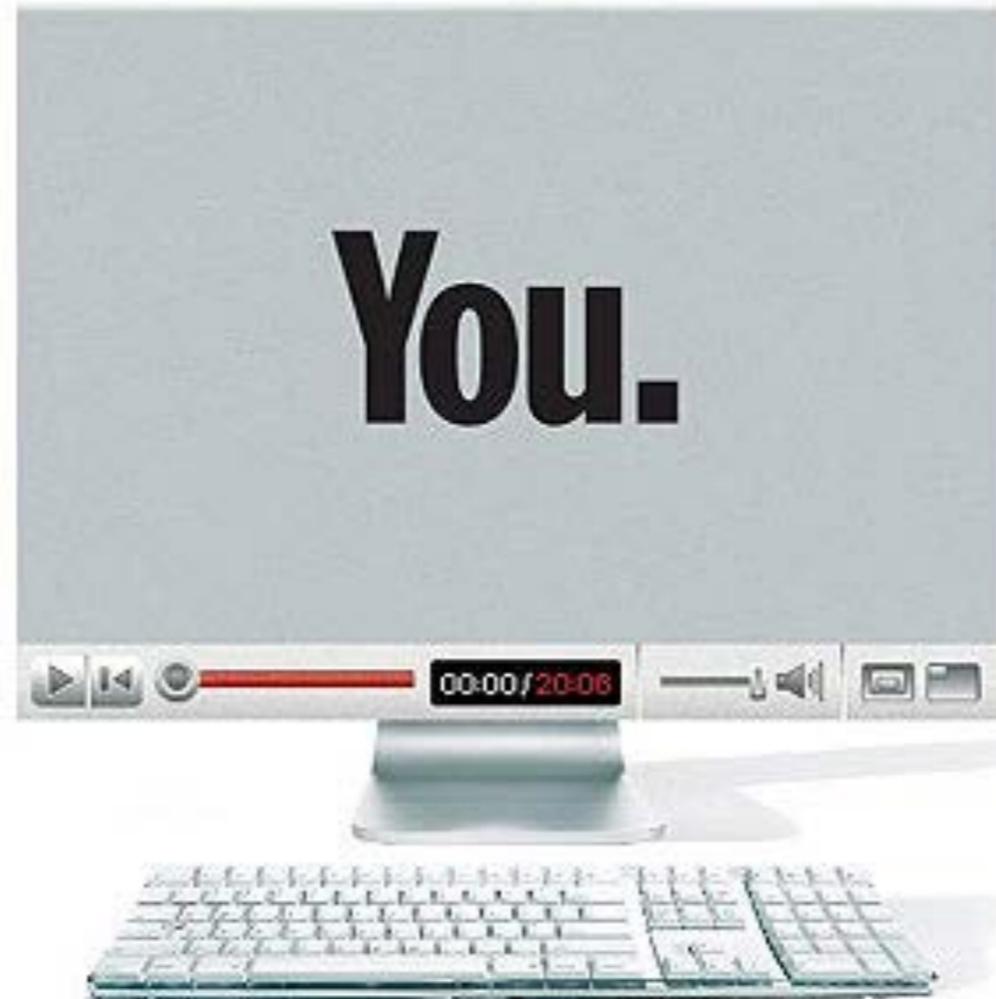
McMarriages

Disposability

As a matter of fact
the world does revolve around ME!

TIME

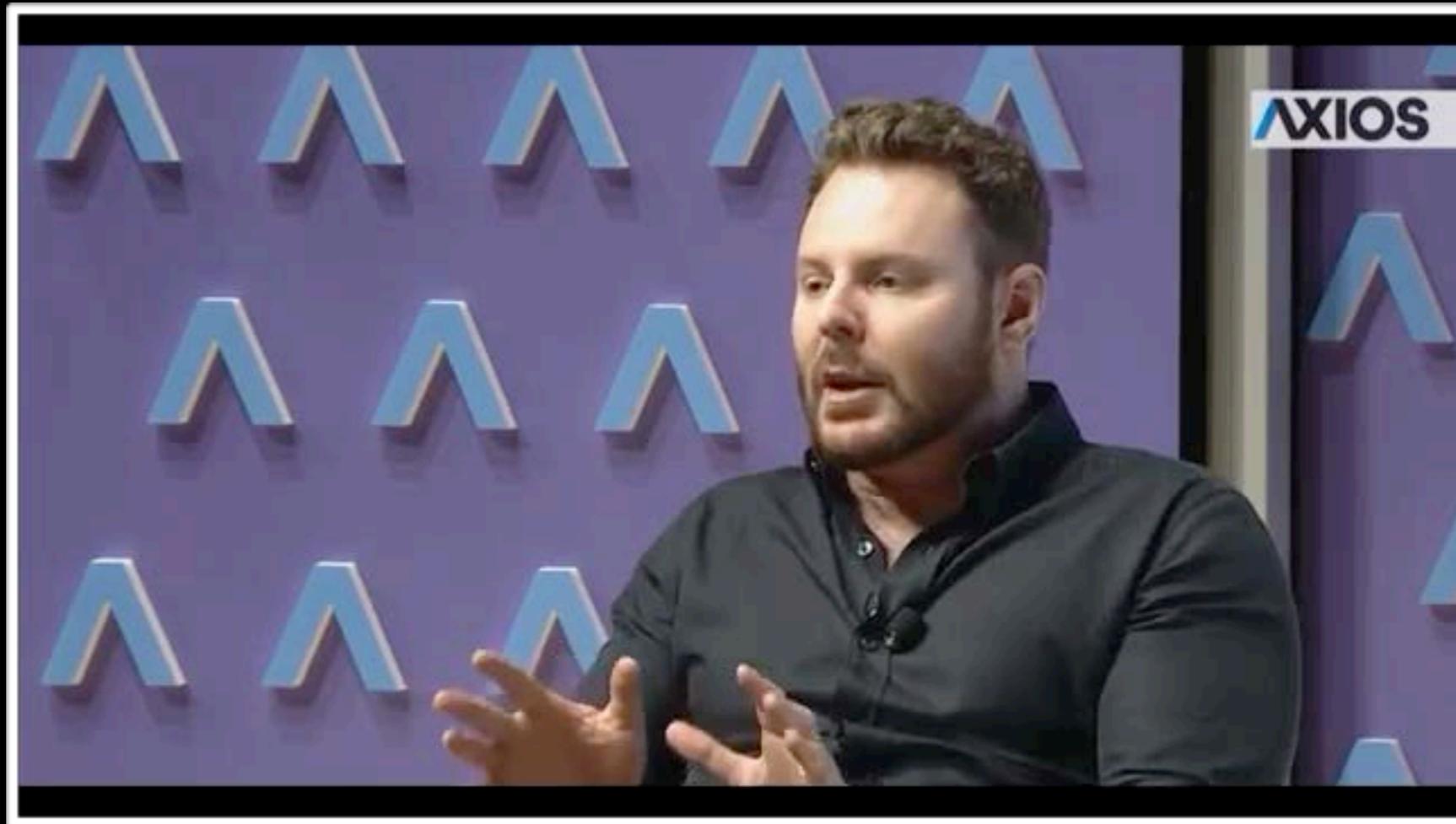
PERSON OF THE YEAR



Yes, you.
You control the Information Age.
Welcome to your world.

Sean Parker

Founding President of Facebook



November 9, 2017

Facebook was launched Feb 4, 2004

NOISE

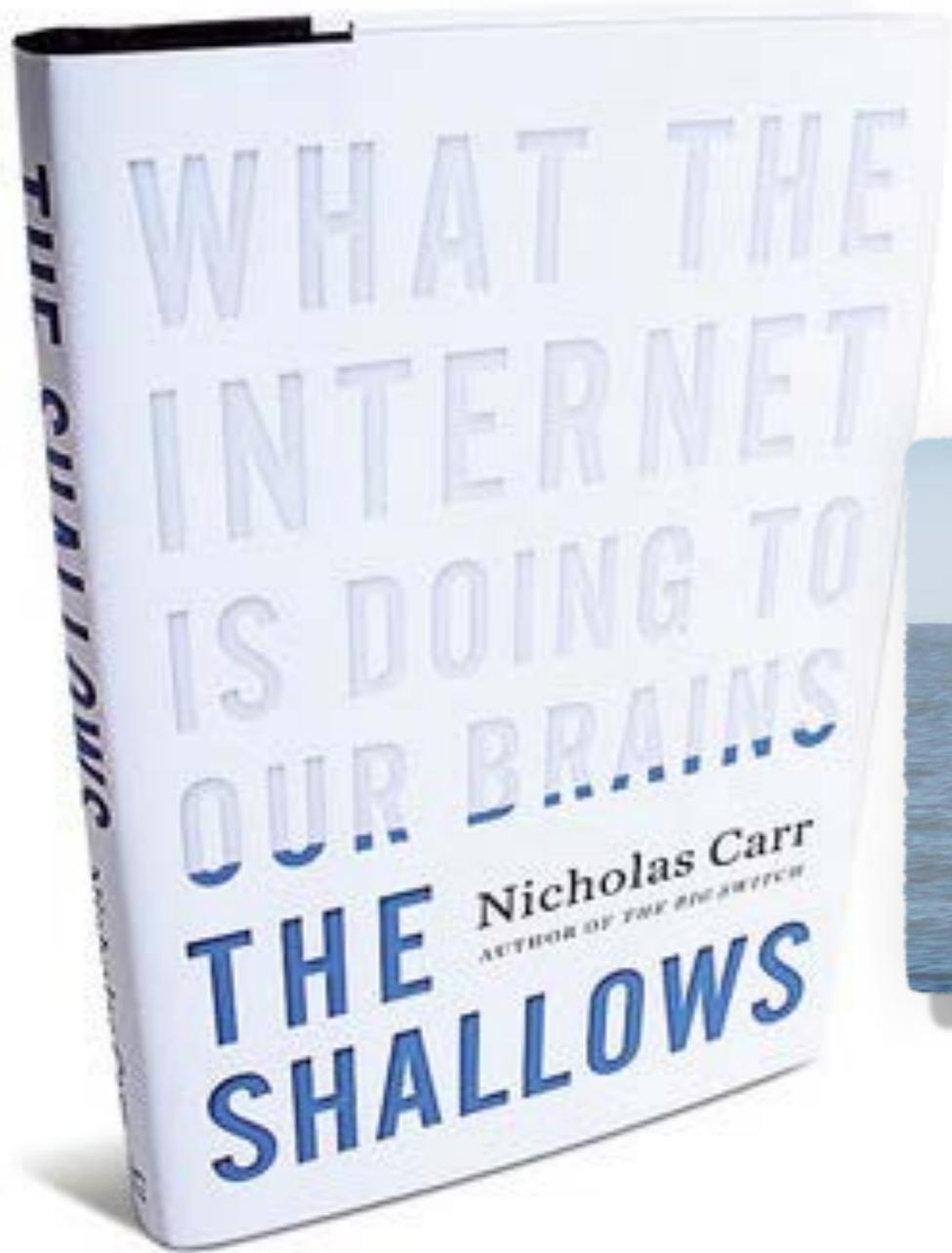
TALK

BUSYNESS

SPEED

VOLUME

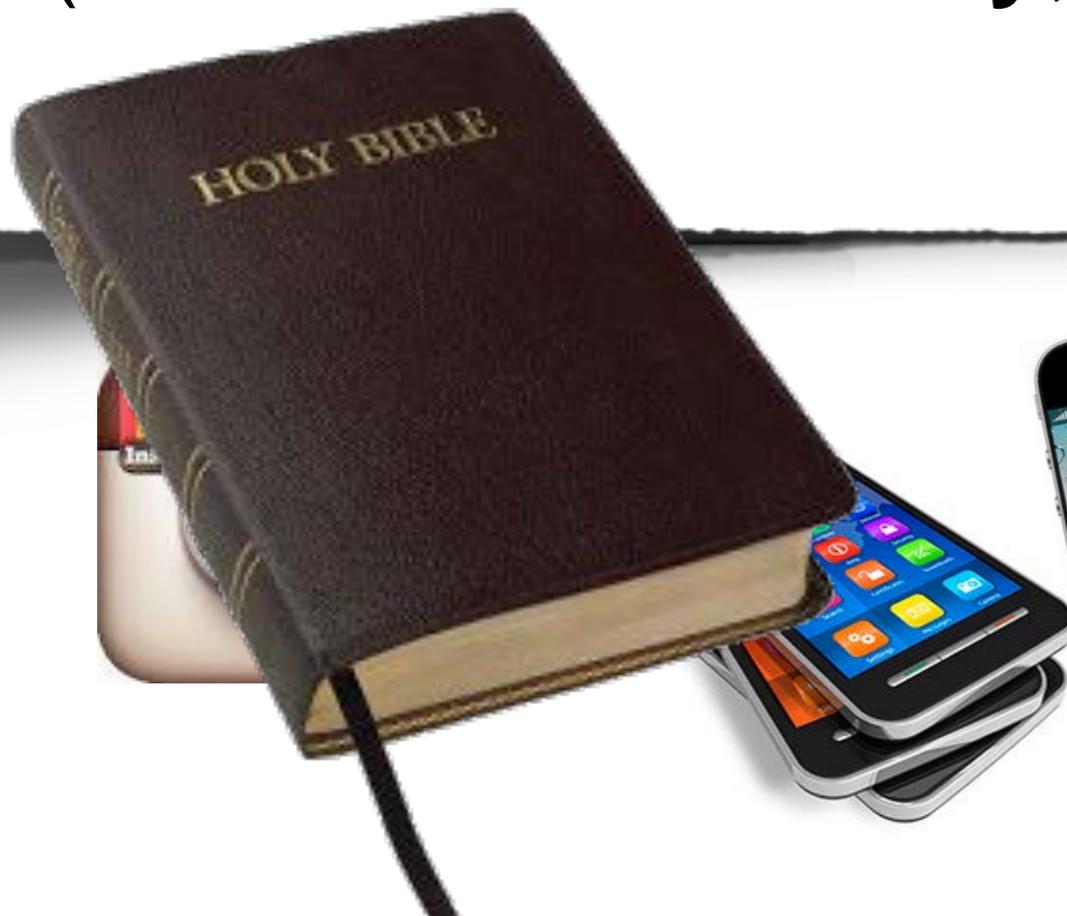
CONNECTION





“The average teen now spends more than the equivalent of a full-time job on digital media each week. (It’s **nine hours a day**, or about **63 hours a week**).”

Tim Elmore



“We’ve lost an understanding of what it means to have our identity shaped by face-to-face relationships”

Michael Wesch

People are “desperately trying to
escape the deadly anonymity of
the modern world”

Michael Wesch

On the other hand, an environment of representations yields an aura of surface—as in “surf.” *It is a world of effects...*

We are at the center, but there is a thinness to things, a smoothness, a muffled quality—it’s all insulational, as if the deities of Dreamworks were laboring invisibly around us, touching up the canvas of reality with digital airbrushes.

Thomas de Zengotita

“People immerse themselves in representations to shelter themselves from whatever reality is out there”

The world is “going off the rails”
so people stuff their lives
with busyness and projects
via representations

Thomas de Zengotita



stay busy

“People immerse themselves in representations to shelter themselves from whatever reality is out there”

stay connected

The world is “going off the rails”
so people stuff their lives
with busyness and projects
via representations

keep performing

Thomas de Zengotita

stay busy

Escape reality by
getting lost online

“People immerse themselves in
representations to shelter themselves from
whatever reality is out there”

Go online to
measure up;
striving for
perfection

stay connected

is “going off the rails”
people stuff their lives
with business and projects
and representations

keep performing

Thomas de Zengotita

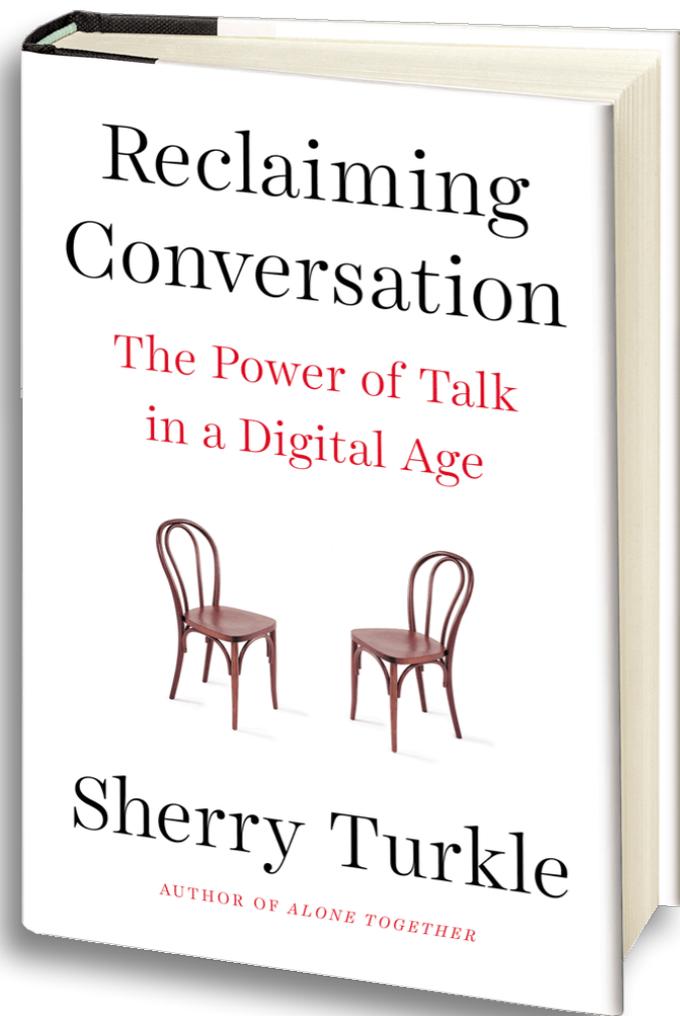
Chamath Palihapitiya

Former Facebook Executive

November 13, 2017



His work at Facebook involved trying to increase Facebook's userbase

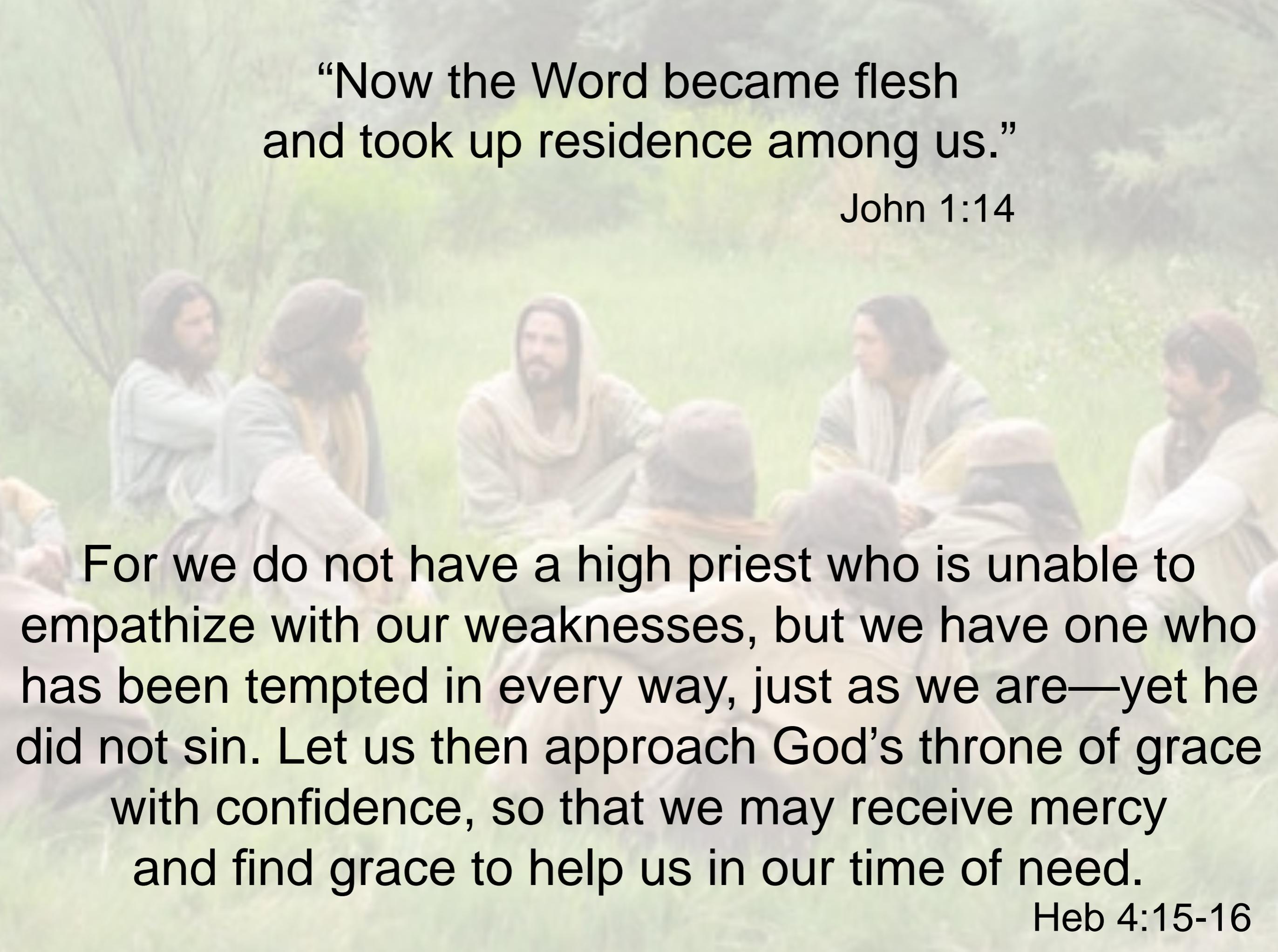


"This new mediated life has gotten us into trouble. Face-to-face conversation is the most human—and humanizing—thing we do. Fully present to one another, we learn to listen. It's where we develop the capacity for empathy. It's where we experience the joy of being heard, of being understood..."

But these days we find ways around conversation. We hide from each other even as we're constantly connected to each other...technology is implicated in an assault on empathy."

"But these conversations require time and space, and we say we're too busy."

"...technology gives us the illusion of companionship without the demands of friendship."

A group of men in traditional robes are sitting in a circle outdoors, with a central figure who appears to be Jesus. The background is a soft-focus green landscape with trees. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

“Now the Word became flesh
and took up residence among us.”

John 1:14

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Heb 4:15-16

Face-to-Face Connection and Reflection Challenge

Invite someone/s to get together

REFLECT

Describe one main thing you learned *about him/her*

Describe one main thing you learned *about yourself*

Identify an aspect of your experience for which you thank the Lord

Identify an area in your life that you are trusting the Lord for further growth

Describe a least one main difference you observed between relating to people *virtually* (e.g., Facebook or texting) and relating to them *face-to-face*

Share what you learned from your experience with someone else

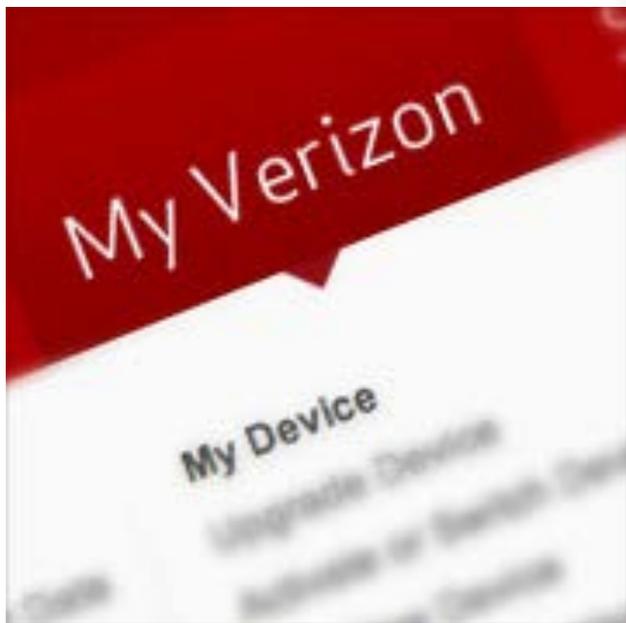


17,000%
increase

'Selfie' named
word of the year for 2013

USA Today noting
Oxford Dictionary's choice

MY **YAHOO!**



17,000%
increase

'Selfie' named
word of the year for 2013

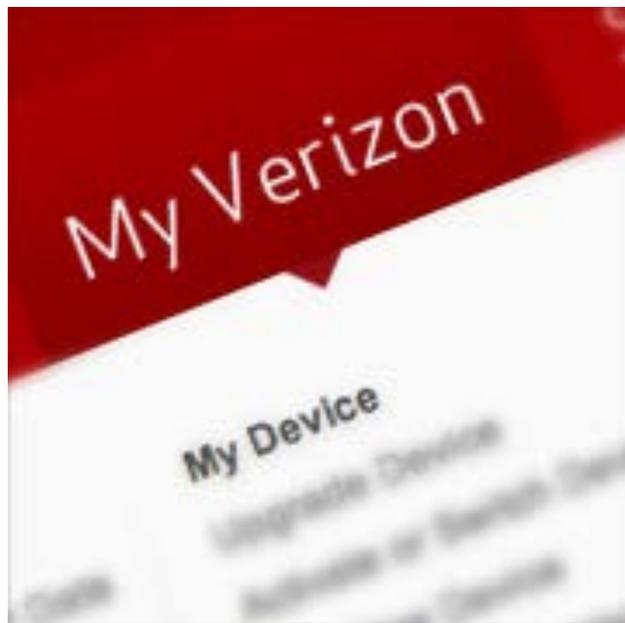
USA Today notified
Oxford Dictionary's choice



Broadcast Yourself™



MY **YAHOO!**



17,000%
increase

'Selfie' named
word of the year for 2013



You

“the person curved in on himself”

Martin Luther

Broadcast Yourself™



Training Grads

“When you serve others,
not thinking of yourself,
your heart is light,
free and full of joy,
and God keeps giving
you insight into living.”

Suduwama
Bisorio pastor

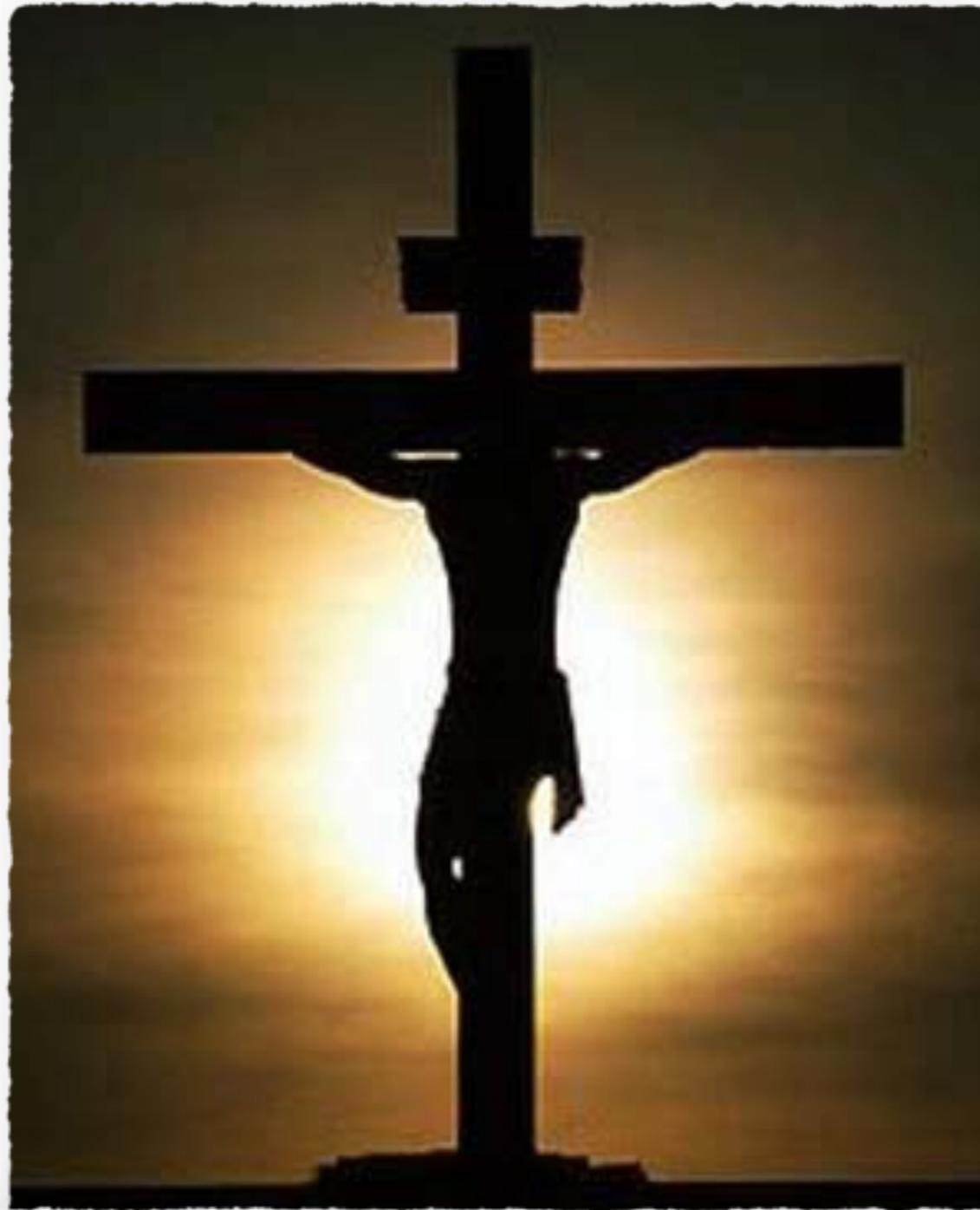


“As the Father
has sent me,
even so I am
sending you.”

The Lord Jesus



Training Grads



**“...a God for whom love of the other
is central to his being.”**

Delighting in the Trinity