...Your own mystery is never fully present to you. This means your prayers in wishes and words are always partial and often blind. Yet the deep prayer of the heart continues within you in a silence that is too deep for words even to reach.

One of the deepest longings in the human heart is the longing for a foundation to things. Because we sense how fragile and uncertain life can be, we long for a foundation that nothing can shake. … Being on earth, we feel we are on solid ground. Yet at its deeper foundation the earth rests again on the nothingness of the empty air – but it is held there by the invisible force fields of gravity. It is appropriate in the inner world that the deepest foundation of the mind and heart also rests on the invisible nothingness of the soul. The roots of all intimacy and belonging are planted powerfully in the invisible spirit. You belong ultimately to a presence that you cannot see, touch grasp or measure. When you forget or repress the truth and depth of your invisible longing and decide to belong to some system, person or project, you short-circuit your longing and squander your identity. To have true integrity, poise and courage is to be attuned to the silent and invisible nature within you. Real maturity is the integrity of inhabiting that ‘immortal longing’ that always calls you to new horizons. Your true longing is to belong to the eternal that echoes continually in everything that happens to you. Real power has nothing to do with force, control, status or money. Real power is the persistent courage to be at ease with the unsolved and the unfinished. To be able to recognize, in the scattered graffiti of your desires, the signature of the eternal. True prayer in the Holy Spirit keeps the graciousness and splendour of that vulnerability open.

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