Google or God: from whence cometh your inspiration?

Now you know right-off that I'm not about to vote for Google over God. But nor am I trying to turn you from your sinful searching ways toward the Light. I'm merely wondering if there's something “out there” we could both tap into; something that unlocks our ability to turn any possibility we dare imagine into a richly desired reality.

This is about the relationship we have to two universal forces: Inspiration and Intuition. This, sadly, is where establishment, more academic, "Just the facts, ma'am" readers tend to drop off. It's not that anyone denies the existence of these forces, it's that they are often considered a bone we throw to the woo-woo crowd who thought The Secret should have won an Academy Award. It it weren't for inspiration and intuition there'd be no science as surely as if there is no mother there is no you. So why do those claiming a scientific chromosome so often turn on that which gave them life?

Inspiration is the source of all that is. Intuition is what you do with what you find there.

"Inspiration" means "to blow into" and "the immediate influence of God." "Immediate" is the operative word. It stems from the Genesis account of God breathing life into original man. This is huge. All that will ever be possible is already possible and all that can ever be known is already knowable. We have immediate access to all this influence. Where and how inspiration exists is far more mysterious than where the technology "cloud" exists. I just know it's all around us with no password needed.

Let's switch to intuition. This, originally, was also a theological word from Late Latin meaning an 'insight, direct or immediate cognition, spiritual perception, a consideration'. According to one study, "73 percent of executives surveyed said they trust their own intuition when it comes to decision-making." I'm not sure why the qualifier. And in a moment of surprising transparency, even among the data-driven decision-makers, 68 percent agreed. Sounds encouraging, but it's like putting IKEA furniture together and discovering one leftover peg. You can get away with it, but in your heart you know somethings not quite right.

Intuition without inspiration is like being a "party of one" at a fine restaurant. Inspiration is the chamber where all that can be, is. The spiritual candy store. Disneyland - at least the first time. It's too much, far beyond the limits of our
imagination. Intuition, on the other hand, is your spiritual shopping cart picked up from the current circumstances of your life. In other words, inspiration shows you all possibilities while intuition takes you to what you need right now.

Back to my title. Do you access all this through Google or God?

The first thing most of us do with every query that enters our mind is Google. I'm working on how to program water so it hydrates people, plants and animals more effectively and efficiently. If I ask Google, I get exactly 12 million responses in .74 of a second. Every one of them is from the past. Some think it's possible and many don't. Some imply I'm an idiot for even thinking about this. Undoubtedly some responses came through inspiration. But which? The prospect of searching for "eureka!" is daunting. Still, how did we find anything before Google? Google itself was born of inspiration!

A remarkable book has reinforced my belief that there is a far better way: Seven Brief Lessons on Physics by Carlo Rovelli. It's 81 pages long and ends with the sentence "And it's breathtaking."

Over and over again in referring to history's brightest and most scientific minds Rovelli hints at the source of inspiration. Rovelli said he studied best on vacation without the distraction of his university. He'd look out at the sea and "...it seemed to me I was actually seeing the curvature of space and time imagined by Einstein. As if by magic: as if a friend were whispering into my ear an extraordinary hidden truth, suddenly raising the veil of reality to disclose a simpler, deeper order." Oh my goodness I wish that were me.

Rovelli describes how Einstein wasted a whole year "loafing aimlessly," suggesting that loafing is essential to accomplishing anything. Much later, an "extraordinary idea occurred to him (Einstein), a stroke of pure genius: the gravitational field is not diffused through space; the gravitational field is that space itself." Are you getting this? Einstein had an idea! This is not "Hey, let's order a pizza." When your idea involves the gravitational field you are tapping into the source of all things - you are inspired.

Look, no one's ever had a good idea in the middle of a meeting. You access inspiration when you're not trying to, like driving home after the meeting. Try and the doors close. It comes to you in the shower. On your run. Sitting on that big rock overlooking the lake. Even in your sleep. This is when you are open to hearing that friend whispering in your ear.
So hey, knock off for the day. Get inspired and then let your intuition tell you what needs to be done.

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