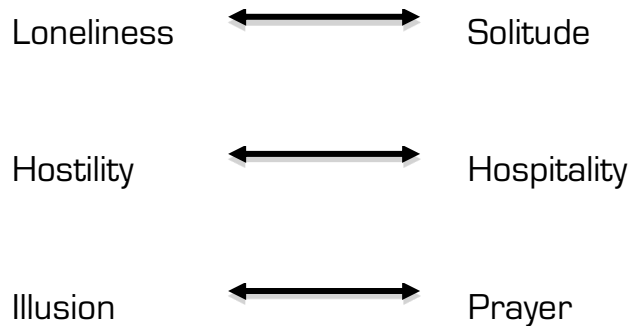


Poles of the Spiritual Life

Based on *Reaching Out* by Henri Nouwen

The movement between poles

The spiritual life is that constant movement between the poles of loneliness and solitude, hostility and hospitality, illusion and prayer. The more we come to the painful confession of our loneliness, hostility and illusions, the more we are able to see solitude, hospitality and prayer as part of the vision of our life.



The movement toward growth

There is a relationship among the elements. As the person, or parish, increases its capacity for solitude that provides a base for growth in hospitality. And as our hospitality increases that provides a base for deeper prayer (and connection with more reality).

