**PREMISE — LACK**

Not enough goods and goodness

- competition & consumerism intensify & our ecology collapses—all reinforcing the limiting premise.
- Fear, depression, & violence spread ...
- power inequities worsen, generating scarcity from abundance & with it needless suffering & destruction of the natural world.
- Concentrated wealth then infects & warps political decision-making, so …
- wealth inexorably concentrates.
- But markets only work if driven by highest return to existing wealth, so …

Human nature is selfish, competitive, & materialistic, so …

we’re incapable of deliberating to achieve common good, and …

we must distrust government & trust an impersonal, fixed law—the market—to decide social outcomes.

**PREMISE — POSSIBILITY**

Plenty of goods and goodness

- enabling progress toward resolving local-to-global crises—and reinforcing the liberating premise.
- we’re capable of learning the skills of deliberative problem-solving, and …
- so more & more people have a voice in problem solving.
- Political decision-making is freed from the influence of wealth …
- so markets remain open, competitive, & life-serving as guided by democratic polities.
- Rules, set democratically, keep wealth widely dispersed …

- democracy becomes no longer a fixed structure but an evolving, values-driven culture we can create.
- within human nature are deep needs for fairness, cooperation, & effectiveness, so …

**Spiral of EMPOWERMENT**

**Spiral of POWERLESSNESS**