

# CONCEPT OF PRESENCE

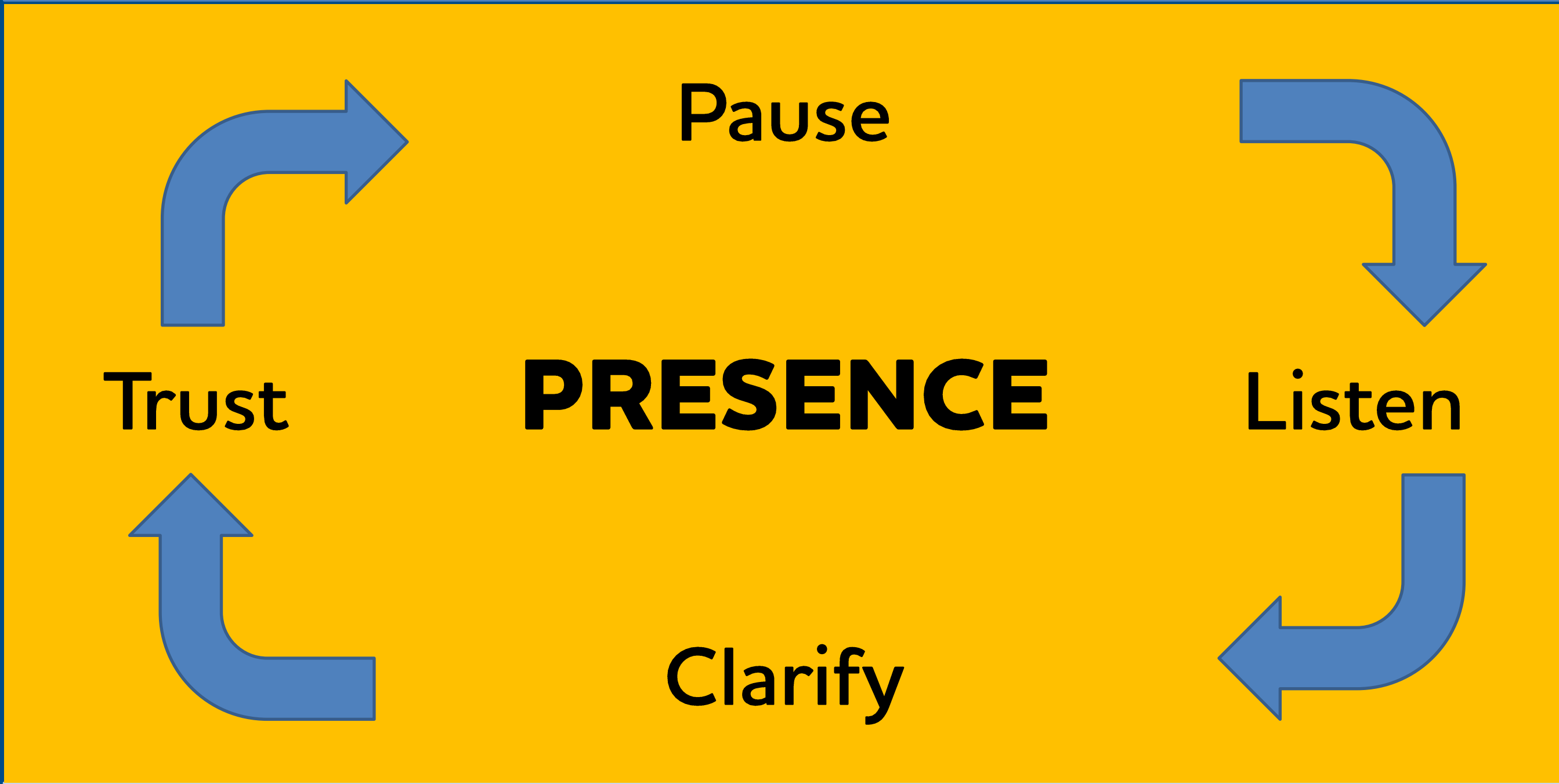
## LOVERING’S CRESCENT OF CARE MODEL

- Allah and the teachings of the Muslim faith permeate every aspect of nursing care as well as the nurse’s daily lives.
- Devotion to the Muslim faith requires the faithful to physically represent Allah through the actions of kindness, patience, tolerance, spoken word and prayer.
- Arab Muslim nurse is mandated as part of the Muslim faith to convey to her clients the importance of a relationship with God through actions that affirm a commitment to God/Allah.
- Presence as an act of caring is seen within the Arab Muslim nursing community as an edict from Allah and is demonstrated in prescribed ways.
- Lovering refers to the process of gaining personal peace, development of inner connectivity and affirmation of Allah through maintaining faith, representing Muslim religious ethics and Islamic principles.

*“Once you accept the existence of God—however you define him, however you explain your relationship to him—then you are caught forever with his presence in the center of all things.”*

*Morris West*

## PRESENCE: COMMON THREADS



- The concept of Presence permeates the writings of both Watson and Lovering through the use of direct and indirect terms describing different nursing actions that represent and infer a caring presence. .
- Watson (2012) and Lovering (2008) identify the importance of the tangible and intangible manifestations of caring through myriad methods, including how culture affects or motivates the mode of delivery.
- Eastern and Western nursing culture is the importance of acknowledging that God is present in nursing actions, client outcomes, and the client’s perception of suffering and illness
- Spirituality is emphasized throughout the readings of Watson and Lovering, frequently in the form of altruism in both the Eastern and Western nursing cultures
- The need for understanding of the unseen existence of an omnipresent being is the underpinning of both Western and Eastern nursing cultures

## WATSON’S CONCEPT OF PRESENCE

- Presence is defined as “the state or fact of existing, occurring, or being present in a place or thing.” Additional defining characteristics of the term, presence, include “ a person or thing that exists or is present in a place but is not seen.”
- The transpersonal nature of the experience is connected with the nurse’s ability to be authentically present in a way that reaches out to others, transcending ego.
- Focusing on the body as a wholly integrated entity of mind, body and spirit mandates that nursing include authentic presence of self as well as recognition of the individual’s spiritual beliefs in all aspects of care.



Watson (2008) refers to metaphysical presence, presencing, authentic presence, and transpersonal human caring moments as an archetype representing variations of the concept of nursing presence.