**Values and the Allegory of the Sail Boat**

Imagine you have just awoken from a very deep sleep, one that has erased all of your memory. Even without opening your eyes you can feel the weight of your body pressed against a warm, firm surface. There is a soft breeze and while the surface you are laying on is flat and unyielding to your pressure, it’s frame ungulates as if pressed on many sides by lightly opposing forces.

Open your eyes and you will see that the surface you are on is the deck of a wooden sailboat adrift in the ocean. As you shift your weight to sit upright, the change in the boat’s center of mass causes it to lightly toss in the calm sea.

**Symbolism**

* Waves and wind are every day distractions
* The rudder, keel, sales are all your ability to control your surroundings, intentions, drive
* Points on the horizon are your values

**People that join your boat**

* Adrift, without their own direction or means of self reliance
* Crew that can aid your navigation
* People that will take you off course

**Lessons from the Allegory**

* The size of your boat can change
* Who you let on the boat can help or hurt your progress
* It’s easiest to drift with the current and the wind, but it leaves you at the mercy of the environment
* The points on the horizon are values that you point your actions toward, they may not be obtainable and your perspective of them may change as you make progress. As you navigate, you can choose other guideposts that better suite the context of your travels.