



*Sundays HS & Middle School 9:00 a.m. Room 216
Head to the sanctuary when you arrive. You'll be dismissed from there.

Events:

April 24	Interact meeting: CLEO
April 26	Earth Day of Action
April 27	Earth Day Advocate and Origami Statements
April 27	Confirmation: Confirmation & Commitment
May 3	High Ropes
May 11	Messy Church
June 1	Graduation Celebration
June 7	Confirmation Sunday

Safe Sanctuary Forms:

[Registration Form](#)

[Event Permission Form](#)



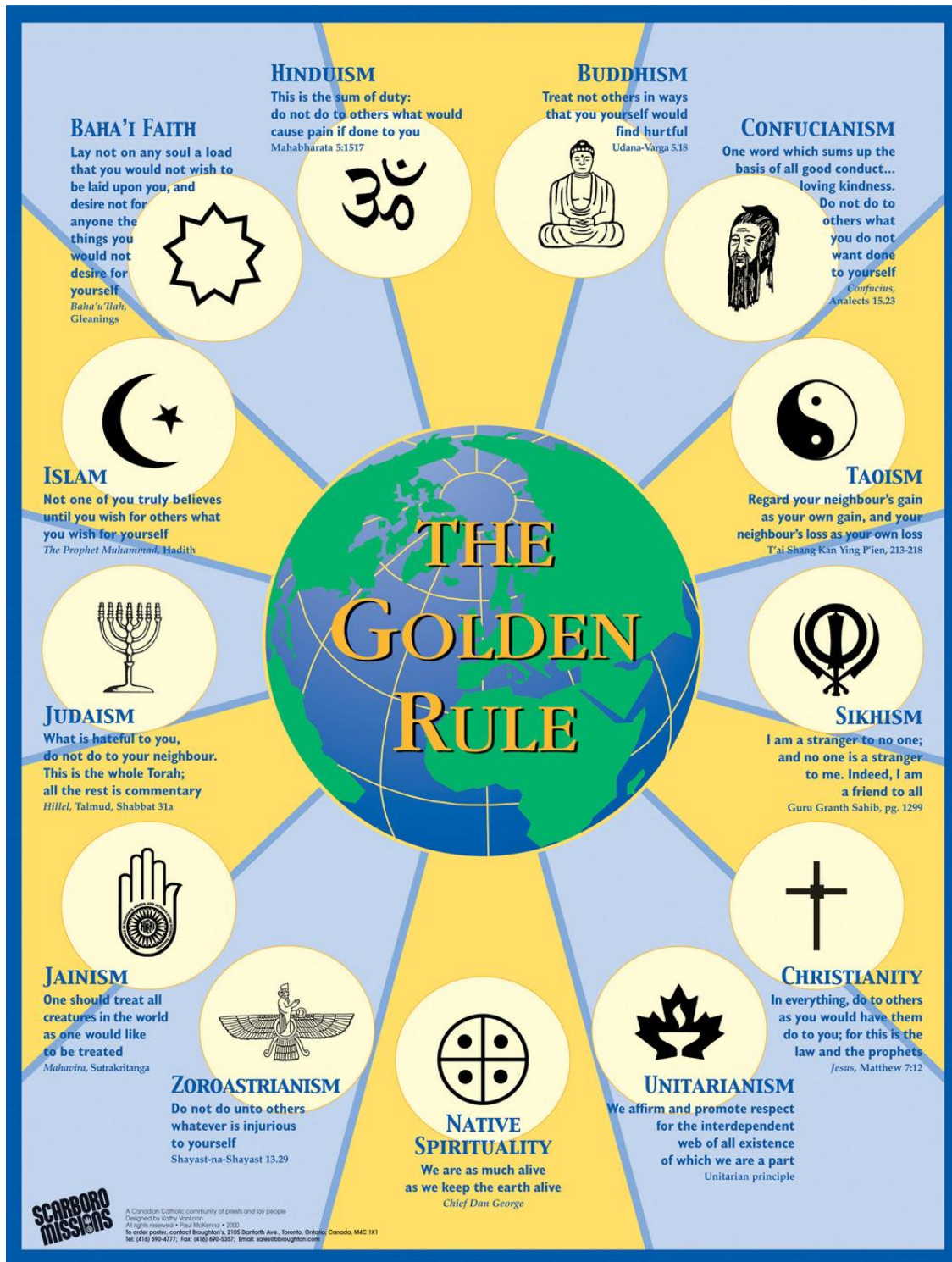
CHS students - Head to the Interact meeting this Thursday April 24 in room 226 - 10:15 - 10:45 to learn about a new tech initiative with high school students and seniors. I'll be there with Brent McCumons, a Chelsea Retirement Community resident, who will share his thoughts about just how

much the residents would appreciate your tech expertise!

Technology is rapidly changing and it can be overwhelming for seniors who are not familiar with it. Our mission is to establish a community around providing access to technology and improving the quality of life for seniors who lack digital literacy skills.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/teenagers-volunteer-help-seniors-learn-how-to-use-technology-form-friendships-along-the-way/>





Love God, Neighbor, Enemy

Week 6 Live Peaceably

Romans 12:9-21 & 1 Corinthians 13

Whereas 1 Corinthians explores what love is, Romans 12 explores what love does.

In his treatise on loving enemies, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. lifts up the how and why of this difficult practice. **"We must recognize that the evil deed of the enemy-neighbor, the thing that hurts, never quite expresses all that he is... There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies."**

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

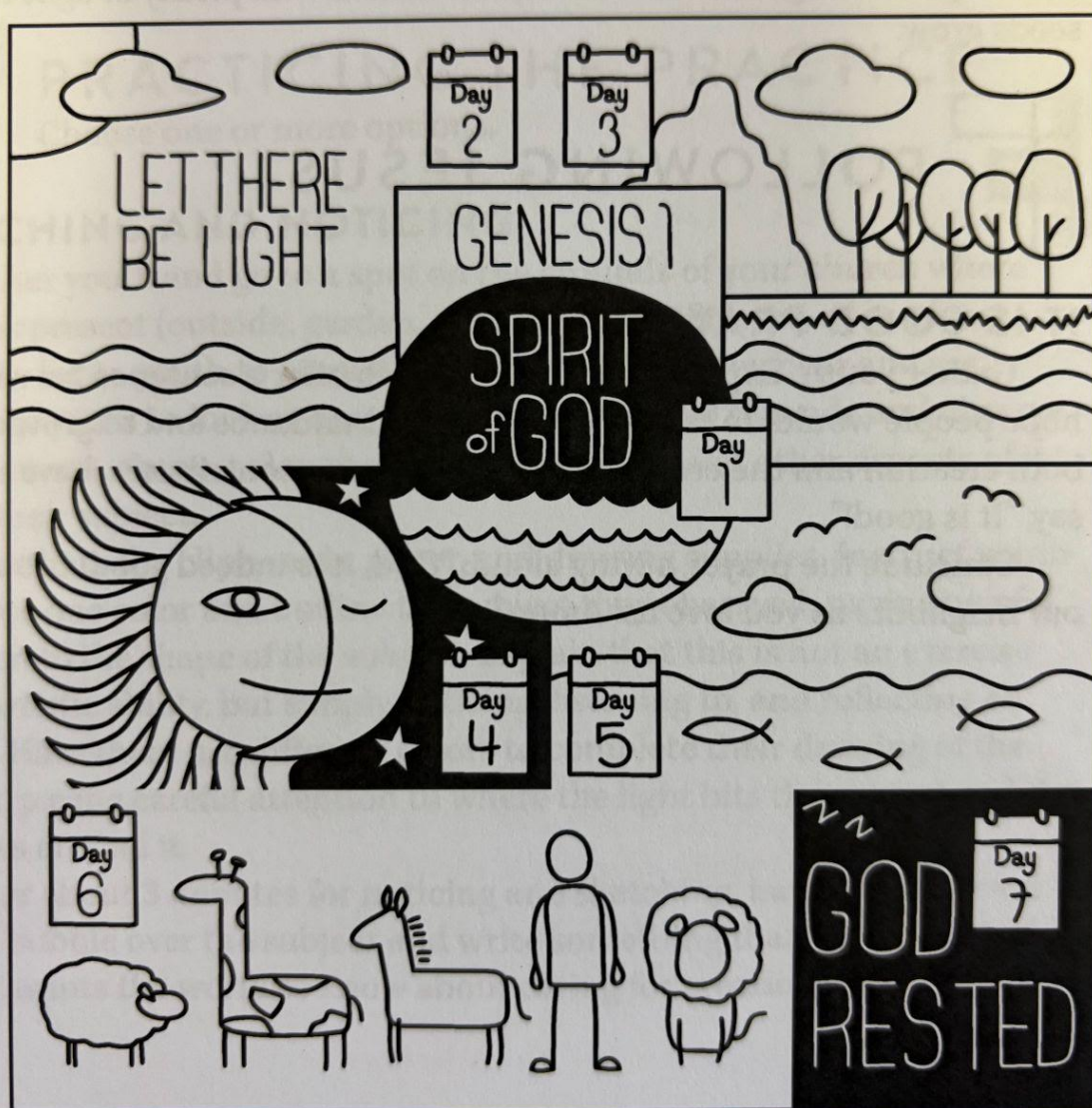
There's something deeply tactical about Paul's instruction. We do not accept evil as inevitable; nor do we give in to it. We fight it. King writes, Jesus is no impractical idealist; he is the practical realist. For King, love is the only force that can take enemies and turn them into friends.

Loving God, neighbor, and enemy with our whole selves is not easy, but it may be some of the most important work we do.

The Reverend Joachim Alexandropoulos was an Orthodox priest on a Greek Isle in WWII, now memorialized at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. The Nazis came one day, demanding that he provide them, the next day, with a list naming every Jew on the island. The next day he handed them a list containing only one name, his own. The world needs our love of God, neighbor, and enemy as much as it ever has. We might never be tested to the utmost limits of love, but even if we are not, we are still called to fulfill whatever works of love lie before us, and to do so with courage, mercy, and extravagant love.

MaryAnn McKibbon Dana

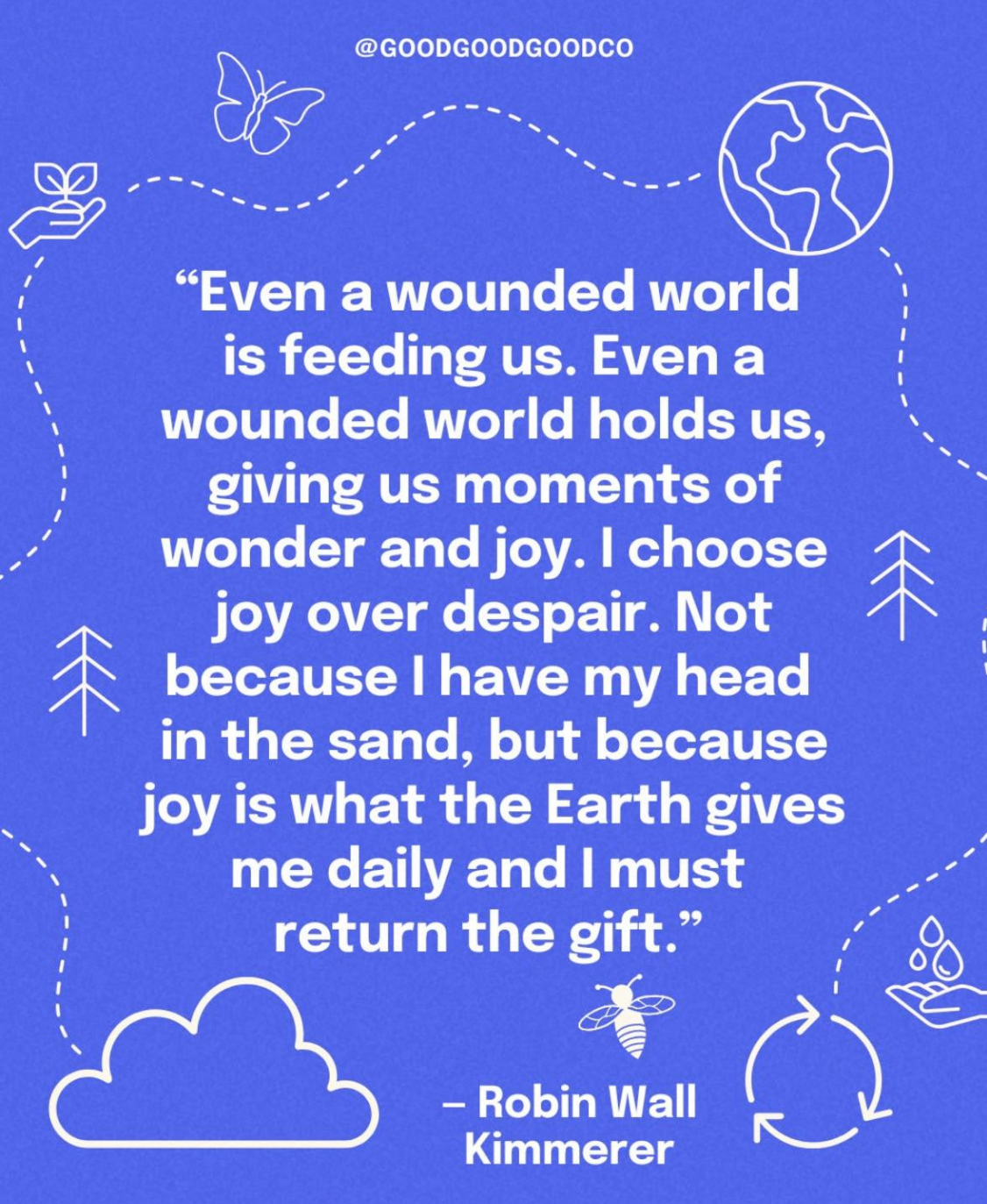




Care For Creation

April 27	Appreciate God's Creation	Genesis 1-2:3
May 11	Tend To Natural Resources	Genesis 1:27-28; 2:15
May 18	Share The Planet	Matthew 25:14-30
May 25	Restore Creation	Revelation 22:1-5

@GOODGOODGOODCO



**“Even a wounded world
is feeding us. Even a
wounded world holds us,
giving us moments of
wonder and joy. I choose
joy over despair. Not
because I have my head
in the sand, but because
joy is what the Earth gives
me daily and I must
return the gift.”**

**– Robin Wall
Kimmerer**

Feeling a little stressed these days and looking for a little good news in the world?

Real, messy hope delivered to your inbox daily, <https://www.goodgoodgood.co/goodnewspaper/subscribe>

Also found on IG @goodgoodgoodco



<https://michiganumc.org/care-for-our-fragile-home/>



Bible in a Minute

Every chapter of the Bible, one minute at a time.

Do you want to learn something new about the Bible? Be inspired to open the book and read it for yourself? Learn what it means to read the Bible through the lens of progressive and liberation theology? ***Then this is the project for you!***

Follow them on Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube to see each episode as it is released.

<https://www.trcnyc.org/bibleinaminute/>



Dear Teen: Sometimes You Don't Find Your People in High School

Written by Whitney Fleming



28



https://parentingteensandtweens.com/dear-teen-sometimes-you-dont-find-your-people-in-high-school/?utm_source=convertkit&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Dear+Te

[en%3A+Sometimes+You+Don%E2%80%99t+Find+Your+People+in+High+School+-+17341326](#)



PUT ON LOVE

May 11, 2025
4:00 – 6:00 pm

"Where people of all ages come together to share in music, storytelling, creative crafts, and a delicious dinner."



In the early evening hours before the start of my eighth grade year, I stood in the front yard, bored to tears. A kid in high school drove up in his shiny black sports car and offered to drive me to a nearby field where my best friend was shoeing horses with her dad. Having received permission, off we went. Long story short, he parked the car in grass gathering dew on the side of the road. Half way out of the car, an elderly woman crested the hill and hit her gas pedal instead of the brake.

A hospital stint, 180 stitches to reattach my scalp and two black eyes later, I walked into the doctor's office for my first checkup. As I was escorted down the hallway, I still remember adults leaning out of their rooms to get a better look at the freak show walking by. In their defense, if you had given me a white dress and a black beehive wig with a white lightning bolt in front, I would have crushed the role as Frankenstein's prom date.

Immediately following the appointment, my mother took that shame filled self conscious 13 yr old to the salon for bangs and though the scar has faded over time, I've worn the shame in one way or another ever since.

We do our very best to hide our imperfections and our 'not enoughness' so that somehow the illusion of perfection presents itself as a perverse notion of 'very good'. Kind of like a rainbow that has all the right colors, but remains untouchable.

On Easter Sunday, my social media feed filled with shiny images and lilies and all the 'right' verbiage to proclaim a new day. My son is a huge proponent of the '5 Whys'. It's a simple brainstorming tool that helps teams get to the underlying reasons behind an issue, going beyond surface level explanations. You've heard of 50 cent? I call my son '50 Q'. He should have been a detective. Yet here I am... curious as to what it means to the person who posts. And I want to ask again and again... and yet again until I get below the surface level to reach something deeper.

All of this came to mind after reading a sermon that one of my favorite writers shared with incarcerated men on Easter Sunday in Canyon City, Colorado. In her sermon entitled **Resurrection Is Messy**, Nadia Bolz Weber began with text from the book of John.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ~ John 20

"Jesus came and stood among his disciples and said *peace be with you*, then he didn't try to hide the mark from the spear on his side. He didn't wear gloves to conceal his scars. Jesus came and stood among his disciples and said *peace be with you* then he showed them his hands and his side.

He knew that he would be known by his wounds.

And isn't that true for us as well? We can only really know and be known when we show our scars. I never really feel a connection to someone until they have shared with me the lumpy, broken, petty, parts of themselves. I maybe inspired by the virtue and accomplishments of others, but I only feel less alone when someone shares their failures with me, the parts of themselves that have been hurt. As Beyonce says, show me your scars and I won't walk away."

"We are walking embodiments of our entire story. The scars from that aren't optional, but the shame is."

"Being an Easter people - a people of resurrection - is not to be cleansed from all harm, and it is not to have all the bad things that we have done or that have happened

to us erased. Resurrection is not about rewriting our past or forgetting what happened. I wish that's how it worked but it just isn't. Because (as many preachers before me have said) resurrection is not reversal.

The things that happened to Jesus' body - the state sanctioned violence, the flogging, the crucifixion - remained even after he defeated death and rose from the grave. He still bore the marks of that pain, but the pain was not what defined him."

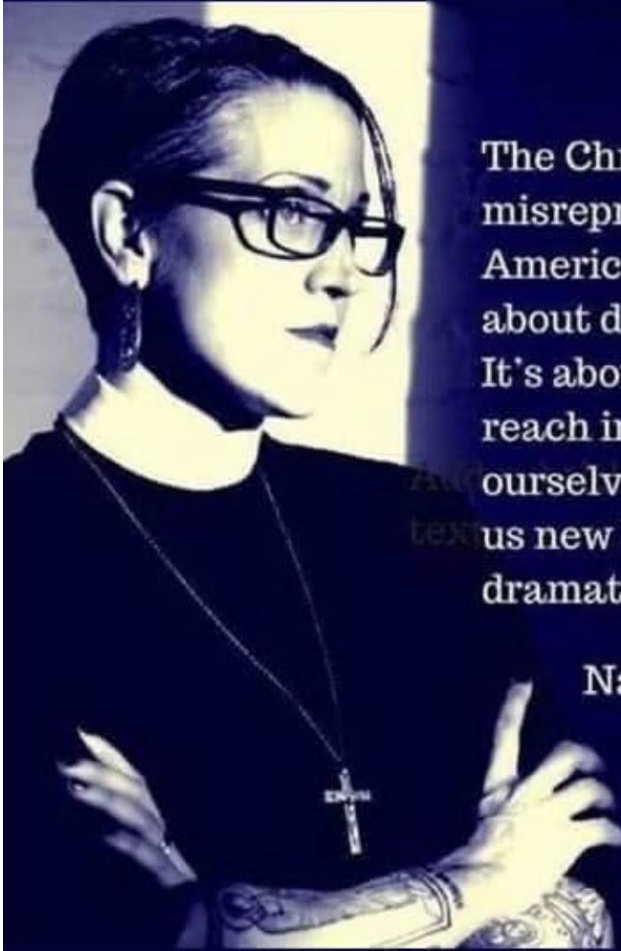
"What if the most reliable way to know God is to look at how God chose to reveal God's self in Jesus, even in Jesus' wounds. Because that changes everything. In Jesus we see a God who would rather die than be in the sin accounting business anymore. A God unafraid to get his hands dirty for the ones he loves. This is the God who raised Jesus from the grave - still wounded and who chose a woman with a past to tell everyone else about it."

She ends with this - "Our scars and our sorrow will always be part of our story but they will never be the conclusion of our story. Which means that even when you feel trapped in your pain, trapped in your past, trapped in your own story like it is itself a tomb, know this - that there is no stone that God cannot roll away. Happy Easter, friends."

If you'd like to read the full sermon, click the link below.

<https://thecorners.substack.com/p/resurrection-is-messy>

#I'msearchingforJesus



The Christian faith, while wildly misrepresented in so much of American culture, is really about death and resurrection. It's about how God continues to reach into the graves we dig for ourselves and pull us out, giving us new life, in ways both dramatic and small.

Nadia Bolz-Weber, Pastrix





Dr. Laurie Santos 



The Science of Well-Being for Teens

**The most popular class in Yale University's history.
Now free for teens.**

Thrive in high school and beyond.

In this 6-week course, Dr. Laurie Santos brings together the best insights from her popular Yale course Psychology and the Good Life - now re-designed specifically for teenagers.

This course will share evidence-based strategies for feeling happier in high school and beyond. Learn about common **misconceptions** about happiness; **biases** that get in the way of happiness; **behaviors, thoughts, and feelings** that lead to happiness; and how we can achieve our happiness **goals**. By the end, you will learn a set of tools for feeling better and building healthier habits.



Teens are experiencing a mental health crisis

A recent survey found that 37% of teens say they have poor mental health. Explore what the field of psychology teaches us about how to be happier, how to feel less stressed, and how to thrive in high school and beyond.

Feel better. Build healthier habits.

Misconceptions

Discover what it means to be happy.

Examine misconceptions about money, grades, and social media that hold us back.

Biases

Learn how biases affect our happiness.

Explore strategies for healthier comparisons and dealing with our limited attention.

Strategies

Uncover how we can harness our behaviors, thought patterns, and emotions to boost our happiness and experience better moods.

Feel Better. Build healthier habits.

<https://www.drlauriesantos.com/science-well-being-teens>

Yes, I enrolled. No, I did not agree to be a part of the research study.

Yes. I can't recommend this highly enough. Yes.

If you're looking for the teachings of Jesus and meta analytics, this is your one stop shop.

You'll find the link to enroll in the link above.



Life is big, screens are small...
and you deserve to live your fullest life.

<https://screensanity.org/tool/smarterstart/>