



## A THREE-WEEK SERIES ON **IDENTITY**

### Series Overview

Imagine your life looked like a building that had a specific function. Maybe it was a grocery store– it had aisles of refrigerators, a spot at the front for customer service, and a space over on the side where they serve chicken tenders. But over time, you began to notice that the structure of the building was starting to fall apart. The beams holding the ceiling in place were decaying... the foundation was cracking... the building that is your life needs to be *renewed*.

Over this three-week series, we'll look at how God reclaims, remodels, and repurposes our lives, giving us a *new* identity. He **reclaims** us, flaws and all, and calls us His own. He **remodels** our thoughts, desires, and actions by helping us to strip out the parts of our lives that are broken down and causing rot. And He **repurposes** us to live as partners with Him in bringing His new creation and restoration to the world.

#### Week 1

**Scripture:** 2 Cor. 5:14-15, 17

**Summary:** God **reclaims** us, flaws and all, and calls us his own.

#### Week 2

**Scripture:** Ephesians 4:20-24 (MSG or NIV)

**Summary:** God **remodels** our life, changing our thoughts, desires, and actions

#### Week 3

**Scripture:** Romans 12:1, 9-18

**Summary:** God **repurposes** us, as buildings who are mid-remodel, to live as partners with Him in helping bring His new creation and restoration to the world.

## Tip of the Month

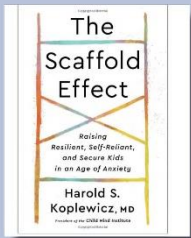
What if our world will never be less online than it is today? A very connected, online world is most likely the new normal. So how can we help teenagers to understand and value real, human connection in this online world? Check out this short [parent tip video](#) for more.

## Spiritual Practice of the Month

### PRACTICE OF MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE.

For the month of January, we're looking at how God works to help us build a life of flourishing. Scripture tells us that one of the ways He does that is through His Word, through us choosing to "hide His word in our hearts." So, we're inviting your students to choose a verse that means a lot to them and practice memorizing it, so that it can be the sturdy material on which they build their lives.

## Resource of the Month



### **The Scaffold Effect: Raising Resilient, Self-Reliant, and Secure Kids in an Age of Anxiety**

**By Harold S. Koplewicz**

Scaffolding is an essential piece of any large construction project. Within an intentional structure that supports the work and the workers for a while, and then can be easily removed when it's time for the building to stand on its own — the project could never be completed. Check out [THIS BOOK](#) for some ideas as to how parenting may have more in common with scaffolding than you think.

## Question of the Month

On a scale of 1-5, how helpful are these emails? We'd love to hear from you. Just send us an email. Then rate it! Give us a 1 if you hate them and a 5 if you love them. As always, please feel free to email us at [students@menlo.church](mailto:students@menlo.church) with anything else as well!