

# Knowing & Pursuing God's Best For Your Kids

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Parent Seminar | **The  
Time  
Is Now**

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## Dinner Questions:

- Share about your family – kids, grandkids, etc.
- How did you end up at CCPC?
- What was one of your favorite things to do as a teen?

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# Oxford Dictionary

## The Good Life:

1. A life of luxury, pleasure, and material comfort.

*'His fondness for the good life made him bankrupt on two occasions'*

2. A way of living that is moral, satisfying, and worthwhile.

*'Plato and his mentor Socrates define the good life in terms of reasonable restraint and civic duty'*



## The Good Life:

*“A vision of the good life captures our hearts and imaginations not by providing a set of rules or ideas, but by painting a picture of what it looks like for us to flourish and live well...”*

*- James K.A. Smith*



# The Good Life:

*A motivating vision that shapes the direction of your life. A window into the deepest desires of your heart – for yourself & for your children.*

*- Helmut Piehlicki*



How do you think families in Suburban Denver would define the *Good Life* for their kids?

How do you think your kids & their friends would define the *Good Life*?

How would you define the *Good Life*?



# COMPETING VISIONS OF THE GOOD LIFE

- Internal vs External
- Fixed vs Fluid
- Individual vs Communal



## INTERNAL VS EXTERNAL

### Expressive Individualism & The Psychological Self

#### THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SELF

*A type characterized not so much by finding identity in outward directed activities, but rather in the inward quest for personal psychological happiness.*

- Philip Rieff

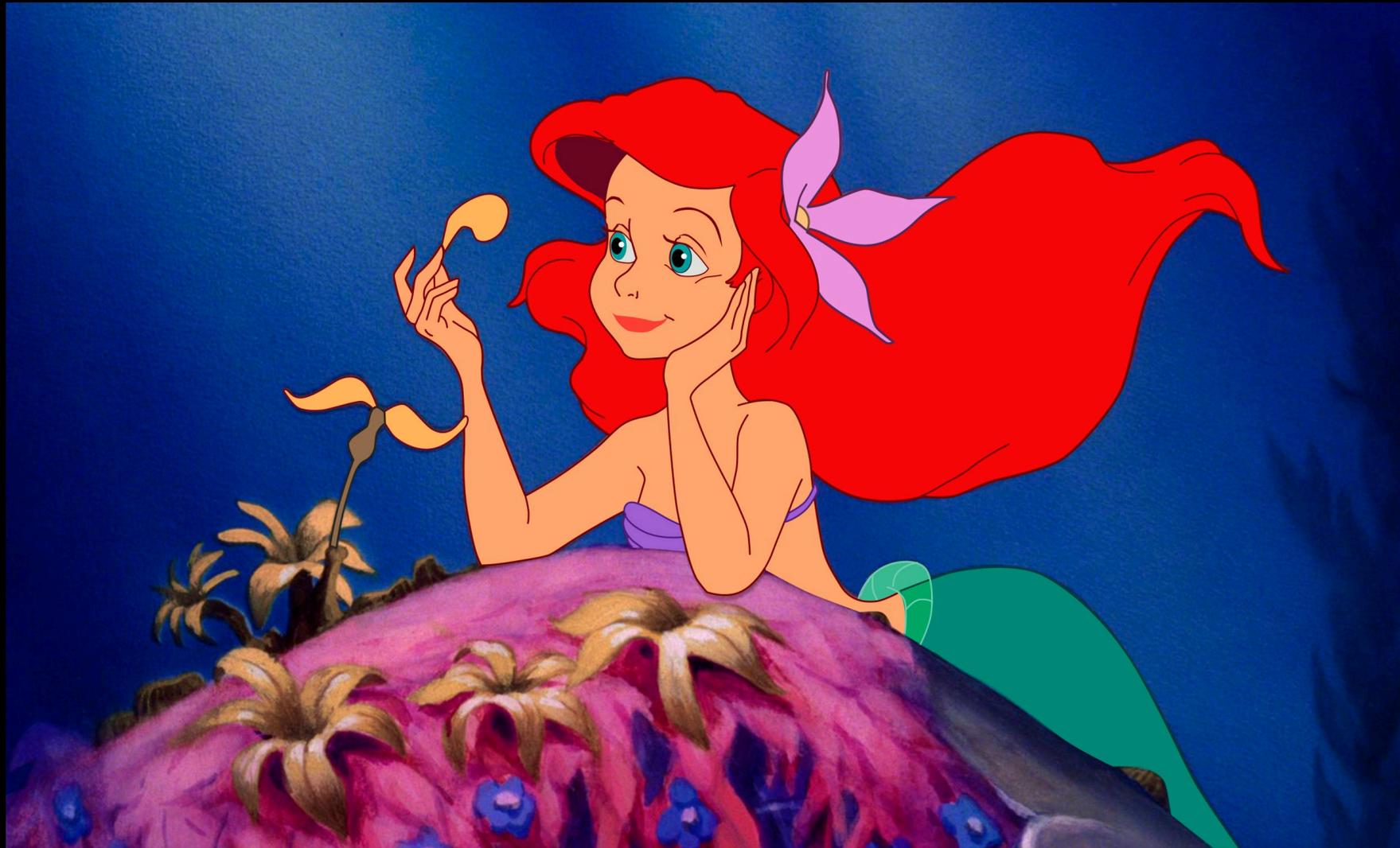


## EXPRESSIVE INDIVIDUALISM

*Each of us finds our meaning by giving expression to our own feelings and desires... Each of us has his/her own way of realizing our humanity and that it is important to find and live out one's own, as against surrendering to conformity with a model imposed on us from outside, by society or the previous generation or religious or political authority.*

- Charles Taylor





# EXPRESSIVE INDIVIDUALISM & THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SELF

1. You be you
2. Be true to yourself
3. Follow your heart
4. Find yourself
5. My truth



<sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- Ephesians 2:6–10



<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;  
<sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5–6



<sup>31</sup> So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. <sup>32</sup> Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God—<sup>33</sup> even as I try to please everyone in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved. **11** Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

- 1 Corinthians 10:31–11:1

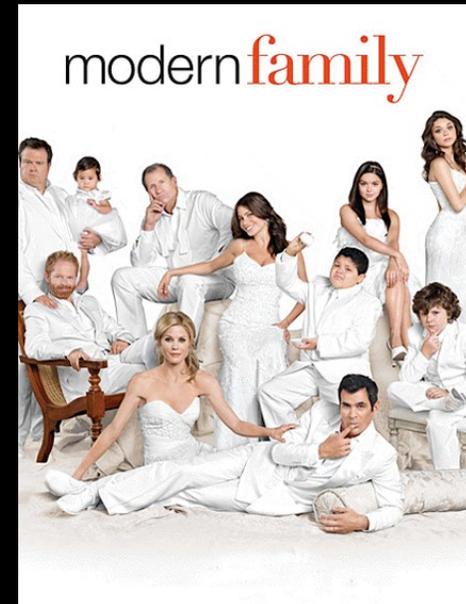


# FIXED VS FLUID Technology





# FIXED VS FLUID Family



# FIXED VS FLUID

## CHRONOLOGICAL SNOBBERY

*The uncritical acceptance of the intellectual climate of our own age and the assumption that whatever has gone out of date is on that count discredited.*

- C.S. Lewis



## FIXED VS FLUID

The heretical spirit of our age:

*the newer is the truer,  
only what is recent is decent,  
every shift of ground is a step forward,  
and every latest word must be hailed as the last  
word on its subject.*

- J. I. Packer



6 These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, <sup>2</sup> so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life.

- Deuteronomy 6:1–2



<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

- Deuteronomy 6:4–6



<sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” <sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

- Matthew 22:36–40



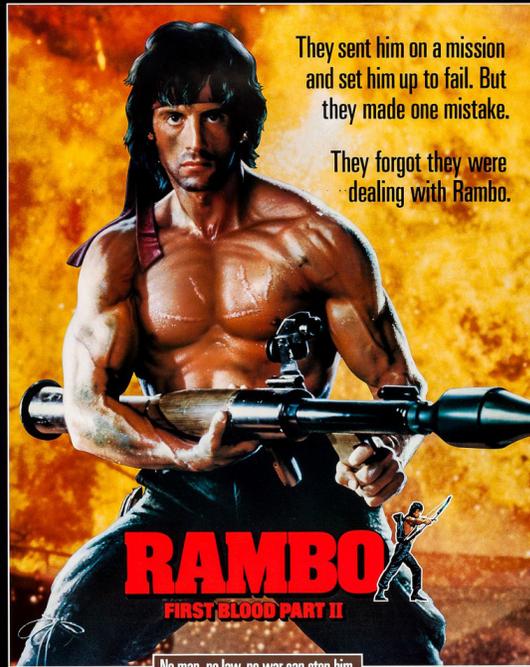
<sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

- Hebrews 13:7–8



# INDIVIDUAL VS COMMUNAL

## STALLONE



They sent him on a mission  
and set him up to fail. But  
they made one mistake.

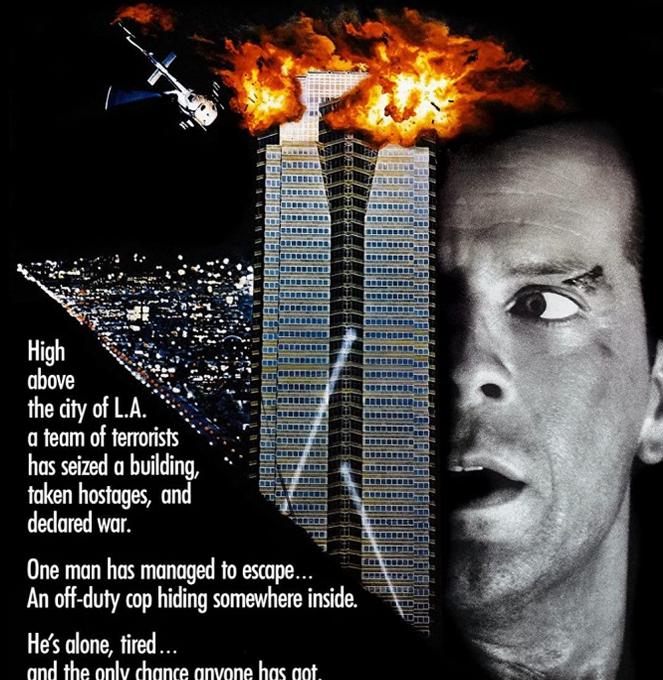
They forgot they were  
dealing with Rambo.

**RAMBO**  
FIRST BLOOD PART II

No man, no law, no war can stop him.

MARIO KASSAR and ANDREW VAJNA present  
SYLVESTER STALLONE "RAMBO" / FIRST BLOOD PART II  
RICHARD CRENNNA CHARLES NAPIER STEVEN BERKOFF with JERRY GOLDSMITH Executive Producers MARIO KASSAR and ANDREW VAJNA  
Screenplay by SYLVESTER STALLONE and JAMES CAMERON Story by KEVIN JARRE Directed by DAVID MORRELL  
Produced by BUZZ FEITSHANS Directed by GEORGE P. COSMATOS Read the JOVE Paperback Filmed in PANAVISION  
R RESTRICTED UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN  
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## 40 STORIES OF SHEER ADVENTURE!



High  
above  
the city of L.A.  
a team of terrorists  
has seized a building,  
taken hostages, and  
declared war.

One man has managed to escape...  
An off-duty cop hiding somewhere inside.

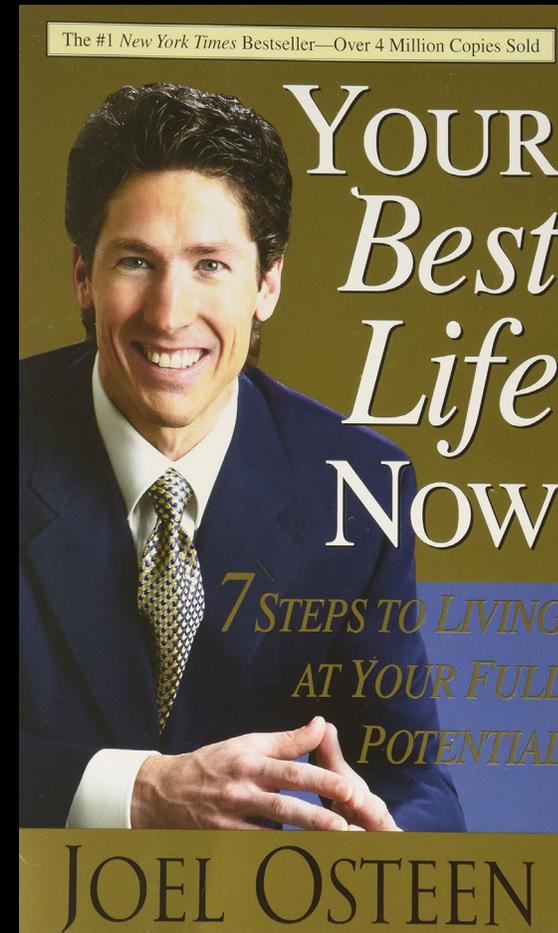
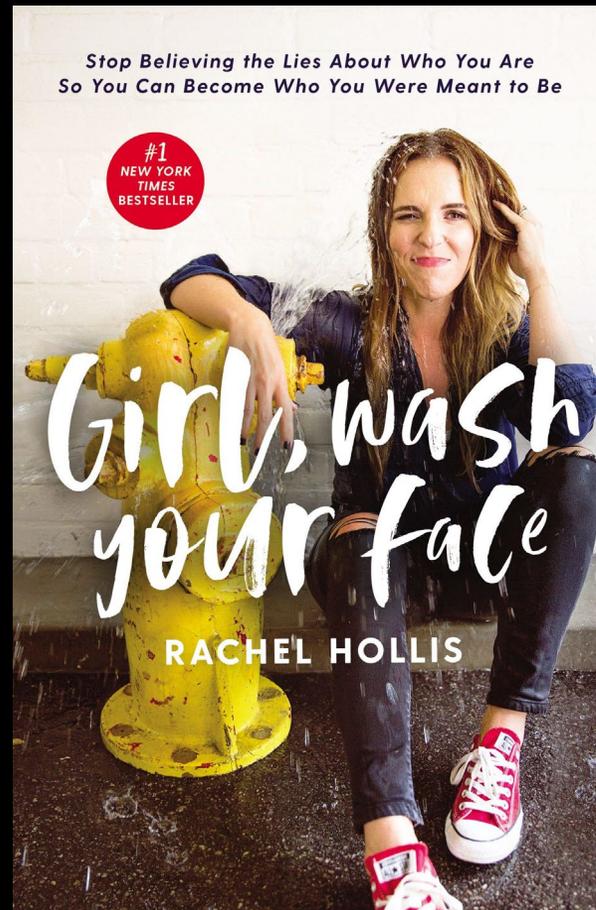
He's alone, tired...  
and the only chance anyone has got.

BRUCE WILLIS  
**DIE HARD**

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX Presents A GORDON COMPANY/SILVER PICTURES Production A JOHN McTIERNAN Film BRUCE WILLIS DIE HARD  
ALAN RICKMAN ALEXANDER GOUDONOV BONNIE BEDELIA Music by MICHAEL KAMEN Visual Effects by RICHARD EDLUND Editor FRANK J. URIOSTE, A.C.E.  
and JOHN F. LINK Executive Producer JACKSON DeGOVIA Director of Photography JAN De BONT Executive Producer CHARLES GORDON Producer JEB STUART and STEVEN E. de SOUZA  
Produced by LAWRENCE GORDON and JOEL SILVER Directed by JOHN McTIERNAN  
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# INDIVIDUAL VS COMMUNAL



<sup>7</sup> Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.

- Jeremiah 29:7



<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

<sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.



<sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

- Acts 2:42-47



<sup>23</sup> Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- Hebrews 10:23–25



<sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

- Ephesians 4:15–16



## THE GOOD LIFE

Living with Kingdom Values as we seek to participate in the work of building God's Kingdom here on earth and welcoming others into this Kingdom. While this work will not be complete here on earth until Christ returns, the work is nevertheless meaningful both in the impact it has here and now and in the ways we are being prepared and shaped for the eternal kingdom to come.



## Homework

Honestly assess what version of the *Good Life* your family is living towards.

Write out a definition of the *Good Life* that you want to guide your family.



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