

# Restored

CARS, GOD, AND THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

## SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 1 June 15, 2025

“Restoring ‘Project Cars’”

### OPENING PRAYER

Have a member of the group lead a prayer as you begin your session.

### SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

#### Genesis 1:27 (NIV)

*So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

#### Luke 19:10 (NIV)

*For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.*

#### Psalms 51:1-2, 10-12 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup>*Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.*

<sup>2</sup>*Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.*

<sup>10</sup>*Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

<sup>11</sup>*Do not cast me from your presence  
or take your Holy Spirit from me.*

<sup>12</sup>*Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.*

#### Isaiah 64:8 (NIV)

*Yet you, Lord, are our Father.  
We are the clay, you are the potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.*

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## INTRODUCTION

They are known as Junkers or clunkers, survivors, rust buckets, beaters, or heaps – old cars that have seen better days. They may seem like hopeless causes destined for the junkyard. But in the hands of an expert auto restorer, these cars can be made better than new. So what does this have to do with the Christian faith?

The process of restoring an automobile is a great metaphor for what scripture says that God does with us. He sees us, not simply as we are, but as we could be. And he is an expert at restoring people. Christ gave his life to purchase you, redeem you, and to restore you; and all of us need to be restored. But in order to be restored, we have to be willing to say “Please Lord, create in me a clean heart.” Are you willing to let God restore you?

## QUESTIONS

1. What was the first car you ever drove? What was the first car you ever owned?
2. Do you act different around your church friends than you do non-church people? If so, why?
3. Read Luke 19:10 (on page 1). Who is Luke referring to when he uses the term “Lost?”
4. Read Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12 on page. 1. What was the significance of the Psalm for King David. What significance does it have for you?
5. Read Isaiah 64:8 (on page 1). What does Isaiah mean when he says “we are the clay and you are the potter?” What does that mean in your spiritual life?

## FINAL APPLICATION

Humble yourself before God this week and ask him to create a clean heart in you.