



Small Group Guide – May 17

Masterpiece: You Can't Fix What Only Jesus Can Restore

Date: May 17, 2026

Focus Passage(s): Titus 3:4-7; Romans 3:23; 1 Peter 5:7

Theme: The reality is, there are broken places in our lives we cannot fix on our own, but Jesus can restore.

Suggested Schedule (60 minutes total)

| Segment | Time | Description |
|--------------------|-----------|---|
| Icebreaker | 10 min | Get comfortable, begin connecting |
| Intro/Recap | 5 min | Read the key passages for the week |
| Group Discussion | 25 min | Dive into Scripture and discuss application |
| Deeper Dive Option | 5–10 min | Deeper Bible study or individual challenge |
| Prayer & Requests | 10–15 min | Close in prayer for growth + personal needs |

Welcome + Icebreaker (10 min)

Have you ever tried fixing something yourself, only to realize halfway through you probably should have asked for help? What happened?

What is something people commonly try to improve or control on their own, but often struggle with?

Key Message Recap

We are continuing our Masterpiece series, and talking about the fact that we can't fix what only Jesus can restore.

Read Titus 3:4-7 together.

What stands out to you most about the phrase "He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy"?

Discussion Questions (25 min)

The Box We Carry

The message describes “the box” as the hidden places where we store pain, sin, wounds, shame, or unresolved struggles.

What do you think people most commonly keep hidden?

Why is it often easier to hide or manage brokenness than surrender it?

How does avoidance keep people stuck?

Key Truth: Ignoring brokenness does not heal it.

Trying to Fix Ourselves:

Why do people naturally default to self-fix rather than surrender?

Have you ever experienced frustration from trying harder without seeing real change?

What are some signs we are trying to control something only Jesus can truly heal?

Key Truth: Self-effort cannot replace surrender.

Jesus Restores:

Read Matthew 11:28-30.

What does Jesus’ invitation to “come to me” mean practically?

Why is surrender often difficult, even when we know we need it?

How does Jesus offer something deeper than behavior modification?

Key Truth: Jesus offers restoration, not just improvement.

Grace and New Identity:

Read Titus 3:5.

What does it mean that Jesus gives us “new birth and new life”?

How does grace challenge performance-based thinking?

How does surrender shape identity?

Key Truth: Grace makes us new.

Surrender and Asking for Help:

Why is honesty such an important first step toward healing?

How can trusted people play a role in restoration?

What keeps people from asking for help?

Key Truth: Healing often begins with surrender and community.

Real-life Application

Most of us have things in our “box” we would rather avoid, but Jesus is not asking us to fix ourselves before coming to Him. He is inviting us to surrender what we cannot carry.

What is something in your life you may need to stop managing and start surrendering?

Next Steps Challenge

This week:

Identify one thing in your “box.”

Bring it honestly to God in prayer.

Consider sharing it with a trusted, spiritually mature person.

Take one practical step toward healing or surrender.

Ask yourself, “What is one area of my life I need to stop trying to fix alone?”

Prayer

Restoration-Focused Prayer:

Thank Jesus for His mercy and grace. Confess areas you have tried to manage on your own, and ask for courage to surrender hidden wounds, struggles, or sin. Pray for healing, restoration, and deeper trust.

Optional Response Moment (if appropriate for group)

Invite participants to privately identify what is “in their box” and allow time for reflection, surrender, and prayer. If appropriate, consider counseling, mentorship, or baptism as next steps.

You are not the solution to your deepest brokenness. Jesus did not come to help you fix yourself. He came to restore what you could never restore on your own.

Deeper Dive Character Study: The Paralytic Lowered Through the Roof

Scripture: Mark 2:1-12

This man's story is a powerful picture of both helplessness and restoration. He could not fix his own condition, neither spiritually nor physically. He needed Jesus. His healing demonstrates that Jesus addresses both spiritual and physical brokenness.

Key Moments

Helplessness – Mark 2:3

The man is fully dependent on others.

Faith-Filled Surrender – Mark 2:4

His friends bring him directly to Jesus.

Jesus' Restoration – Mark 2:5

“Your sins are forgiven.”

Healing – Mark 2:11-12

Jesus restores him completely.

Discussion Questions

Why is it difficult for people to admit they need help?

What role did community play in this man's restoration?

Why did Jesus address sin before physical healing?

How does this story reflect surrender?

What areas of life may require you to let others help carry you toward Jesus?

Key Takeaways

Jesus restores what we cannot fix.

Surrender often requires humility.

Community matters in healing.

Jesus addresses both visible and invisible brokenness.

Like the paralytic, we often carry burdens we cannot solve ourselves. But Jesus invites us to bring every broken place to Him. He does not simply patch us up. He restores us fully.