



Road Trip

Part 8: Check Engine: Preventative
Maintenance for the Soul

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The wisdom of the engine: **The light means something!**

All a man's ways seem right to him, but the Lord weighs the heart. - Proverbs 21:2

Translation: You can't trust your own engine lights.

What is biblical character?

Biblical character is the drive to do what is right, as defined by God, regardless of personal cost. – *Andy Stanley*

Psalm 15

- ¹ LORD, who may dwell in your sanctuary?
Who may live on your holy hill?
- ² He whose walk is blameless
and who does what is righteous,
who speaks the truth from his heart
- ³ and has no slander on his tongue,
who does his neighbor no wrong
and casts no slur on his fellowman,
- ⁴ who despises a vile man
but honors those who fear the LORD,
who keeps his oath
even when it hurts,
- ⁵ who lends his money without usury
and does not accept a bribe against the innocent.
He who does these things
will never be shaken.

The Indicator Lights of the Soul

- Their walk is blameless
- They do what is right
- They tell the truth
- They don't gossip
- They don't mistreat people
- They side with those who do right
- They keep their word
- They are generous without being presumptuous
- They don't take advantage of people

The bottom line of biblical character:

Actions speak louder than words.

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The Divine Promise of “Roadside Assistance”

²⁹ For those God foreknew, he predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to this? **If God is for us, who can be against us?** ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

- *Romans 8:29-32*

On Your Way Home

Take a look at the dashboard of the vehicle you're in. Do you know that meaning of every warning light? Get out the manual if you have to! Which is most important light on the board? Can you find a spiritual parallel to each light?

Group Life Discussion Questions



- 1) Let's start with honesty – is your check engine light on right now? How long has it been that way? What is your normal approach to that little light?
 - a. Ignore it
 - b. Hope it goes away
 - c. Seek immediate help
 - d. Try to fix it yourself
- 2) Almost everyone has had their car break down. Share your worst “my car broke down” story. Now, tell the truth... was the engine light on?
- 3) Look at the spiritual “engine lights” drawn from Psalm 15. Which one blinks the brightest on your personal dashboard? In other words, which one is the most important to you in your own life and in the lives of those you associate with?
- 4) Can you think of an example from your own life where your way seemed right to you but ended up not being correct?
- 5) What criteria do you use to decide if someone is a person of character?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?