RINGS Small Group (Week 2) 10-7-2023 You Don't Know What You Don't Know It's Not Easy But It's Possible

Matthew 19:26 "Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible."

## CALLES TORRESTORY

## The 1958 Edsel

- Was supposed to be the first car of a Ford luxury brand called the CONTINENTAL
- Ford sent out 10s of thousands of surveys trying to find what customers wanted- the Edsel was a mash up of ideas, an incongruent mess...
- Car was a resounding failure commercially; stock market down, pricey and ugly
- Being rushed to production there were lots of warranty issues
- The car was taken out of production in three years
- Now Bugatti, BMW, and Jaguar copied the Edsel horse collar grill
- Dodge copied the push button transmission
- Once the kinks were repaired the 68,000 Edsels drove well and are now Car Show favorites (St. Mark Auto Fest)
- Edsels are now worth 20x their original price

When <u>Dale and Pat</u> started fixing up cars in 2019, they had no idea what they were getting into. Here's the facts:

- 16% of Calhoun County lives under the poverty line
- 66% of the county is unchurched
- There are 4,512 children living in Calhoun County in poverty who are unchurched
- 17% of the county does not have dependable transportation to get to work or church
- That's 5,780 households in the county w/o the ability to get to church
- Theoretically, dream this. There are now 3 churches in BC that wrench for the needy. Let's dream that the number of churches/dealerships gifting cars continues to triple every 4 years. Let's use our proven rate of <u>50 cars in 4 years</u> as the benchmark for all of these ministries. If Lord willing, these things remain constant, <u>5,780</u> cars could be gifted in only 12 years. <u>IT'S DIFFICULT BUT POSSIBLE</u> (God is bigger than our transportation problems, we just need to stay available).

## William Carey (1761-1834)

- Shoemaker turned preacher
- Moved to India as a missionary in 1792
- Served in India 41 years
- Only 17 people a year found salvation in Christ through Carey's efforts
- He was the first to translate the bible into Bengali
- After his death, the multiplied effect of his work led to more than 10 million converts (<u>He didn't</u> know what God had planned in India, William was just available)





Tie it up: Don't give up, keep choosing to serve the Lord, you DON'T know what God is going to do with your availability.