

4 CHILDREN 8 OBJECTS

PARTS 10–15

Completing the Journey

PART 10

THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER & RENEW THE MIND

Continuing the Third Object: The Business Card Holder

Opening

Let us continue our teaching journey.

We have been using objects to help us understand spiritual truths.

Today we are continuing with our **third object—the Business Card Holder with Business Cards.**

Remember:

The case or outer shell represents our body holding information.

The business cards represent information on our spirit and soul.

The purpose is not merely to carry information.

The information must eventually be **delivered.**

That brings us back to the four elements:

1. Receiving

Not rejecting God's information.

2. Holding

Safely guarding God's information.

3. Transporting

Being responsible with God's information.

4. Delivering

Giving God's information with thoroughness and attention to detail.

Remember we used UPS driver: the driver receives a package, carries it responsibly, and delivers it to the proper destination.

1. WHAT IS THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER?

Jesus told His disciples to wait for the Promise of the Father.

Acts 1:4–5

Jesus instructed His disciples to wait for the promise of the Father and connected that promise with being baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Luke 24:49

Jesus said:

“And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high.”

Matthew 3:11

John identified Jesus as the One who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.

2. WHEN DO WE RECEIVE POWER?

A

Acts 1:8

Jesus said:

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you...”

The question is not simply:

Do I know about God's' power?

The question becomes:

Have I received the information God wants me to receive, and am I building that information into my life?

3. THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

The teaching specifically connects the Baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues and point to:

- Acts 2:4
- Acts 10:44–48
- Acts 19:1–7
- 1 Corinthians 14

The purpose of this portion of the teaching is to emphasize the importance of **receiving correct information** rather than rejecting information simply because we do not understand it.

4. INFORMATION MUST BE BUILT INTO OUR LIFE

Receiving information is only the beginning.

We need wisdom.

We need understanding.

We need time.

We need patience.

Proverbs 24:3 connects building a life with wisdom and establishing it through understanding.

Think about a house.

A house is not built by merely receiving building materials.

The materials must be:

Received.

Understood.

Placed correctly.

Built into the structure.

The same is true spiritually.

5. UNDERSTANDING PROTECTS WHAT WE RECEIVE

Matthew 13:19 tells us that when someone hears the Word and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown.

Mark 4:15 gives the same warning.

Therefore:

We need God's Word to build our lives. If the Word is snatched away, we cannot build it into our lives.

6. RENEW YOUR MIND

Romans 12:2

“Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind...”

Here is an important distinction:

Receive the Promise of the Father — our spirit.

Renew our mind — our soul.

Notice this powerful progression:

Receive.

Understand.

Renew.

Build.

Deliver.

7. READY FOR DELIVERY

The information God has given us should become established in our spirit and soul.

It should be ready for delivery.

2 Timothy 4:2

“Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season...”

We might be ready, but the Word in us is not ready for delivery because of lack of understanding or doubt.

Or the Word might be ready, but **we** may not be ready because of strife, arguments, disagreements, disputes, or conflicts.

Part 10 Key Thought

God wants His information in us and ready for delivery.

PART 11

THE POWER AND PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Opening

Part 10 taught us about receiving the Promise of the Father and renewing our minds.

Now we move forward.

It is possible to have information about the Holy Spirit without developing a practical awareness of His presence and work.

So, we ask:

Do we sense the power and presence of the Holy Spirit?

1. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NOT JUST INFORMATION

The Holy Spirit is not merely a subject we study.

He is the One Jesus promised.

He teaches us.

He reminds us.

He guides us.

He reveals God's truth.

He helps us.

He empowers us.

John 14:26

Jesus said the Holy Spirit would teach and bring His words to remembrance.

2. GOD'S WAY REQUIRES GOD'S INFORMATION

The teaching Part 10 notes state:

“If anyone desires to operate in God’s power they need to do things God’s way.”

And:

“God’s way is using His full information.”

That is important.

We cannot take a portion of God's information and expect it to function like the whole.

We need to continue receiving.

Continue studying.

Continue understanding.

Continue applying.

3. PETER AND JOHN

Look at Acts 3.

Peter and John were going to the temple at the hour of prayer.

They encountered a man who had been lame from birth.

Peter said:

“Look at us.”

Then Peter said:

“Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you...”

And he spoke in the name of Jesus Christ.

The man was healed and began walking, leaping, and praising God.

Notice:

They had something to give.

That is the delivery process.

4. WHAT DO YOU HAVE?

This is the question for every believer.

Not:

What does somebody else have?

But:

What has God placed in me?

If God has placed something in us, we should not keep it locked away.

5. GOD'S PRESENCE SHOULD AFFECT OUR LIFE

Note: Part 10 material includes testimonies and observations concerning God's presence. The purpose of these testimonies is to move the teaching from simply discussing God's presence to recognizing how His presence affects real situations.

Application

Ask yourself:

Am I simply talking about God's presence, or am I allowing His presence to influence the way I live?

Part 11 Key Thought

The Holy Spirit is not merely information to learn about; He is God's gift to be received and God's presence to respond to.

PART 12

THE LIFESTYLE OF THOSE IN CHRIST

Opening

Now we move from:

What we receive

to:

How we live.

God's information is intended to produce something in us.

It should affect our thinking.

It should affect our speaking.

It should affect our decisions.

It should affect our conduct.

It should affect our relationships.

1. INFORMATION MUST BECOME LIFE

We have been talking about holding information.

But holding information is not the final destination.

The information must become part of us.

James 1:22

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only...”

This is the difference between:

Knowing the information

and

living the information.

2. THE BUSINESS CARD ILLUSTRATION

Hold up a business card holder.

Ask:

What good is a business card that never communicates anything?

The card contains information.

But the information has a purpose.

It identifies.

It communicates.

It represents.

It tells someone something.

Now think spiritually.

Our life communicates information.

People may hear our words.

But they also observe our lives.

3. WHO ARE WE REPRESENTING?

Part 15 material identifies the believer as representing:

1. God
2. God's Kingdom
3. Jesus Christ
4. The name of Jesus
5. Delegated authority
6. The Holy Spirit
7. The power of the Holy Spirit
8. People who speak in tongues
9. The inheritance

That is a tremendous responsibility.

4. OUR LIFESTYLE MATTERS

Matthew 5:16

“Let your light so shine before men...”

Our lives should point people toward God.

This does not mean we are perfect.

Part 10 notes make that important point when discussing Peter and John:

They had the needed information and were operating in the delivery mode, but they were not perfect.

That is important.

Spiritual growth is a process.

We continue learning.

We continue growing.

We continue renewing.

We continue developing.

Part 12 Key Thought

The information God puts in us should eventually become visible through the way we live.

PART 13

DOCTRINE? AVAILABILITY? OBEDIENCE?

Opening

Now we come to a very practical question.

We can have correct information.

We can have understanding.

We can have the Holy Spirit.

But are we available?

And when God gives us direction, are we obedient?

1. CORRECT INFORMATION MATTERS

We have already established that receiving incorrect information can interfere with our ability to properly handle God's information.

That is why this series repeatedly emphasizes:

Receive correct information.

The teaching identifies information as knowledge obtained through investigation, study, or instruction and connects growth in knowledge with 2 Peter 3:18.

2. AVAILABILITY

Consider Ananias in Acts 9.

God called:

“Ananias!”

And Ananias answered:

“Here I am, Lord.”

That is availability.

He did not know everything that was going to happen.

He did not have every answer.

But he was available to receive God's direction.

3. OBEDIENCE

Ananias received information.

Then he had to act.

He had to go.

He had to find Saul.

He had to speak to him.

He had to deliver what God had given him.

This is the four-element process in action:

Receive.

Hold.

Transport.

Deliver.

4. GOD'S INFORMATION REQUIRES A CARRIER

This is one of the strongest statements for this part:

God's information requires a trustworthy carrier.

God does not merely want information stored in us.

He wants us prepared to carry it where He directs.

5. AVAILABILITY VS. SELF-CENTEREDNESS

Ask:

Am I available to God?

Not:

“Is somebody else available?”

Not:

“Who else can do it?”

But: **“Lord, am I available?”**

6. OBEDIENCE VS. WILLFULNESS

Sometimes we know what to do but delay.

Sometimes we understand but resist.

Sometimes we receive information but never deliver it.

That interrupts the process.

Part 13 Application

Ask:

1. What has God already told me?
 2. Have I received it?
 3. Have I held it?
 4. Am I carrying it?
 5. Am I delivering it?
-

Part 13 Key Thought

Correct information should produce availability, and availability should produce obedience.

PART 14

WE CAN SAY ALL WE WANT—BUT ARE WE BELIEVABLE?

Opening

Now we come to a very important question.

We can say all we want.

But:

Are we believable?

This is not about being perfect.

It is about whether our words and our life are moving in the same direction.

1. RETURN TO THE BUSINESS CARD HOLDER

Hold the business card holder.

Ask:

What information is on the card?

Then ask:

Does the person carrying the card represent what is written on the card?

Now bring it into our spiritual lives.

Does my life correspond with the information I say I believe?

2. FOUR QUESTIONS

1. Who are you?

2. Whom do you represent?

3. What do you do?

4. What do you provide?

These questions can become a powerful personal examination.

3. PRESSURE REVEALS WHAT IS INSIDE

Romans 5:3–4

Trials and pressure can expose what has been developing within us.

Pressure does not necessarily create everything we see.

Sometimes pressure reveals what has already been developing.

This brings us back to the garden from Part 1.

Remember:

The seed is God's Word.

The heart is the soil.

The Word must be cultivated and guarded.

Part 1 teaching establishes this foundation through Mark 4, Luke 8, Genesis 2:15, and Proverbs 4:23.

4. WHAT COMES OUT?

When pressure comes:

What comes out?

Faith?

Fear?

Patience?

Anger?

Self-control?

Strife?

Love?

The goal is not condemnation.

The goal is growth.

If something comes out that should not be there, we now have information about what needs attention.

5. BECOMING BELIEVABLE

We want our words and our actions to agree.

Not perfection.

Progress.

Not pretending.

Growth.

Not merely saying.

Living.

Part 14 Key Thought

The information we carry should become believable through the life we live.

PART 15

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS

HOLD • CARRY • DELIVER

Opening

We have now traveled a long way.

We started with:

Object #1 — Soil

Be good soil.

Till the soil.

Guard the garden.

Receive God's Word.

Part 1 establishes the heart as a garden that must be cultivated and guarded.

Then:

Object #2 — Duct Tape

We learned:

Temporary methods have a place, but God desires to lead us from temporary to everlasting.

We learned to pursue the everlasting Source and deal with root problems rather than continually depending upon temporary fixes.

Then:

Object #3 — Business Card Holder

We learned:

Receive.

Hold.

Transport.

Deliver.

Now we bring it all together.

1. ABOUT OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS

Luke 2:49

Jesus said:

“Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?”

Part 15 emphasizes that although we have other business to conduct on earth, we cannot neglect our Father's business.

This is the final message of the entire series.

2. WHAT IS OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS?

We have information to carry.

We have truth to live.

We have people to serve.

We have the Gospel to communicate.

We have God's Kingdom to represent.

We have delegated authority to exercise responsibly.

We have the Holy Spirit to receive and respond to.

We have an inheritance to understand and use.

3. HOLD

God's information must be held safely.

Do not casually discard what God has taught you.

Do not allow wrong information to replace correct information.

Do not allow strife, confusion, or distractions to interfere with the delivery process.

Part 10 notes specifically identify strife as a hindrance to delivering God's Word.

4. CARRY

We must take responsibility for what God has entrusted to us.

The business card holder does not merely store cards.

It carries them.

Likewise:

We are carriers of God's information.

5. DELIVER

This is where everything comes together.

The information has a destination.

Someone needs to hear.

Someone needs to understand.

Someone needs encouragement.

Someone needs the Gospel.

Someone needs biblical instruction.

Someone needs to see God's love demonstrated.

We must be ready.

Part 10 notes connect this directly to:

2 Timothy 4:2

“Be ready in season and out of season.”

6. WE ARE PART OF THE BODY

1 Corinthians 12:14–27

The body is not one member.

It has many members.

God has placed each member where He wants that member.

We are all important.

Therefore, this series is not simply about what **someone else** should do.

It is about what **I** should do.

THE COMPLETE JOURNEY

RECEIVE

I must receive God's information.



HOLD

I must guard God's information.



RENEW

I must allow God's Word to renew my mind.



BUILD

I must build God's information into my life.



LIVE

I must allow God's information to become visible through my lifestyle.



CARRY

I must take responsibility for what God has entrusted to me.



DELIVER

I must be ready to deliver God's information accurately and thoroughly.



BE ABOUT MY FATHER'S BUSINESS

FINAL OBJECT LESSON

Hold the Business Card Holder one final time.

Say:

“This holder represents my body.”

Hold up the cards.

“These cards represent information.”

Then say:

What good is the information if I reject it?

I cannot hold it.

What good is the information if I do not hold it properly?

I cannot carry it responsibly.

What good is the information if I never carry it anywhere?

It never reaches its destination.

What good is the information if I refuse to deliver it?

The process stops.

Therefore:

RECEIVE IT.

HOLD IT.

CARRY IT.

DELIVER IT.

FINAL CHALLENGE

God has entrusted something to us.

Let's not reject it.

Let's not neglect it.

Let's not allow it to be stolen from our hearts.

Let's build it into our lives.

Let's become responsible carriers of it.

And when the opportunity comes, let's be ready to deliver it.

Why?

Because we are not merely conducting our own business.

**WE MUST BE ABOUT OUR FATHER'S
BUSINESS.**

Final Scripture

Luke 2:49

“Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?”

END OF PART 15

4 CHILDREN 8 OBJECTS

Receive • Hold • Carry • Deliver

PART 10	PART 11	PART 12	PART 13	PART 14	PART 15
The Promise of the Father & Renew the Mind	Do We Sense the Power or Presence of the Holy Spirit?	The Lifestyle of Those in Christ!	Doctrine? Availability? Obedience?	We Can Say All We Want — But Are We Believable?	Our Father's Business! Hold • Carry • Deliver
• The Promise of the Father • Baptism in the Holy Spirit • Speaking in Tongues • Understanding • Renewing the Mind • Ready for Delivery	• More than information • The Holy Spirit teaches • Guides, reveals, helps • Empowers • God's presence affects our life • We have something to give	• Information must become life • Our lifestyle matters • We represent Jesus • Character counts • Our life provides hope	• Correct doctrine matters • Are we available? • Are we obedient? • Ananias — a willing carrier (Acts 9) • God's information requires a carrier	• Words and life must correspond • Four important questions • Pressure reveals what is inside • Become believable • Growth, not perfection	• Be about our Father's business • What are we carrying? • We are part of the body • The complete pattern • Every believer matters • Receive • Hold • Carry • Deliver
Acts 1:4-5, 1:8 Romans 12:2 2 Timothy 4:2	John 14:26 Acts 3:1-10	Matthew 5:18 2 Corinthians 5:20 Philippians 2:15	Acts 9:10-17 2 Peter 3:18	Romans 5:3-4 James 1:22	Luke 2:49 1 Corinthians 12:14-27
RECEIVE	UNDERSTAND	LIVE	BECOME BELIEVABLE	HOLD • CARRY • DELIVER	

BE ABOUT OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS
LUKE 2:49