

4 Children 8 Objects — Part 3

Go Beyond Quick Fixes: From Temporary Methods to the Everlasting Source

This teaching continues the journey of becoming **good soil** and developing a life that can produce lasting fruit. The second object chosen from the teaching toolbox is **duct tape**, which becomes a powerful picture of the difference between **temporary methods** and an **everlasting Source**.

Introduction: The Duct-Tape Approach

Duct tape can be useful. A Band-Aid can be useful. A temporary solution can help us get through a situation.

But a temporary fix was never designed to become a permanent solution.

A temporary method is something that lasts for a limited time. The problem comes when we continually use temporary methods to deal with problems that require us to address the **root**.

The central question of this teaching is:

Are we continually patching the problem, or are we going to the Source and dealing with the root?

God desires to lead His children **from temporary to everlasting**.

1. Two Main Goals

There are two major goals in this teaching:

- 1. Pursue the Everlasting Source for everlasting results.**
- 2. Destroy the root—the real problem—to avoid continually using temporary methods.**

A temporary method may have a legitimate place **until we can get to the actual problem**, but we must not confuse temporary relief with permanent restoration.

2. Temporary Relief Is Not Always the Answer

Consider the example given in the teaching.

There was physical discomfort, and medication provided temporary relief. But the medication was not the answer to the underlying issues.

The root included:

- Overworking
- Little sleep
- Little food
- An unbalanced workload

Changes had to be made.

The lesson is important:

If we do not get to the root problem, we will continue to wear out our life while continually using temporary methods.

Duct tape runs out. Band-Aids run out. Temporary resources run out.

So, ask yourself:

What am I continually patching instead of addressing at the root?

3. God Never Runs Out

Here is the contrast:

**Temporary methods run out.
God does not run out.**

The teaching points us to Jesus as the **Everlasting Source**. Jesus has an **indestructible life**.

Hebrews 7:16 (RSV)

“...by the power of an indestructible life.”

The teaching notes the meaning of “indestructible” as something **not subject to destruction** and connects it with the idea of everlasting.

That changes the way we approach life's problems.

Instead of asking only:

“What can I use to make this better?”

we should also ask:

“What is God showing me about the root, and what does His Word say about it?”

4. The Woman Who Ran Out of Options

Luke 8 gives us a powerful picture.

Luke 8:43 (AMP)

The woman had suffered for twelve years, had spent everything she had on physicians, and still could not be healed.

She had reached the end of her resources.

But then she came to Jesus.

The lesson presented in the teaching is not merely about running out of human resources. It points us toward the **Everlasting Source**.

There are moments when human resources reach their limit.

Jesus does not.

5. Don't Gain the World and Lose the Source

Mark 8:36 (AMP)

“For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his life...?”

We can become so focused on success, possessions, comfort, achievement, or solving everything ourselves that we lose sight of the Source.

1 Timothy 6:6-8 (RSV)

“There is great gain in godliness with contentment...”

The teaching reminds us that we brought nothing into this world and cannot take anything out of it. Therefore, our ultimate security cannot be placed in temporary possessions.

6. The Rich Fool: A Modern Picture

Jesus told the story of a successful man whose crops produced abundantly.

His response was essentially:

“I have accumulated enough. I can build bigger barns and take it easy.”

But God confronted the emptiness of his thinking.

The problem was not simply that he had possessions. The deeper problem was that he had accumulated earthly wealth without becoming **rich toward God**.

The teaching applies this to modern success:

Temporary success means nothing if we become spiritually bankrupt. Go beyond quick fixes, like duct tape...

That gives us another important question:

Am I building my life around temporary results or around my relationship with God?

7. The Word of God Is Our Source

The teaching then moves from Jesus as the Everlasting Source to the importance of **God's Word**.

John 6:27 (NKJV)

“Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life...”

Matthew 4:4 (RSV)

“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (RSV)

Scripture is profitable for:

- Teaching
- Reproof
- Correction
- Training in righteousness

so that the person of God may be **complete and equipped for every good work**.

This is why the teaching makes an important distinction:

Pick up the Bible first—not simply another person's book about the Bible.

Commentaries and other resources can have value, but they are not the Source itself. The Word of God must remain our standard.

8. The Plumb Line: God's Standard of Truth

The teaching introduces the **plumb line**.

A plumb line is a cord weighted with lead that builders use to determine whether a structure is truly vertical.

Spiritually, it represents **God's standard of truth**.

Amos 7:7-8 (AMP)

God showed Amos a plumb line and declared that He was setting a plumb line among His people.

The picture is powerful:

God's Word becomes the standard by which we check our lives.

Not:

- What everybody else is doing
- What culture says
- What feels right
- What is convenient
- What provides the quickest fix

But:

What does God's Word say?

9. Jesus Is the Truth

John 14:6 (NKJV)

“I am the way, the truth, and the life.”

Jesus is not merely another option among many sources of truth.

The teaching connects Jesus with the **plumb line—the Truth and the Source.**

And Jesus tells us:

Matthew 6:33 (AMP)

“But seek... first of all His kingdom and His righteousness...”

The order matters:

Seek the Source first.

10. Get to the Root

This brings us back to the duct tape.

Duct tape can cover something.

A Band-Aid can cover something.

A temporary method can help for a season.

But covering the problem does not necessarily remove the problem.

The teaching's central challenge is:

Unless we destroy the root problem, we will continue to rely on temporary methods.

So don't merely ask:

“How can I make this problem go away?”

Ask:

“What is the root?”

Then ask:

“What does God's Word say?”

And finally:

“What do I need to change or obey?”

11. Our Everlasting Source Is Strong

Temporary methods are weak because they eventually run out.

But our Source is not weak.

Psalm 24:8 (NKJV)

“The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.”

Proverbs 18:10 (NKJV)

“The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.”

God is not another piece of duct tape.

He is the Source.

And His Word is not merely information—it is the standard by which we build and correct our lives.

Personal Application

Take a few moments and examine your own life.

Ask yourself:

1. **What temporary method have I been relying on?**
 2. **What problem keeps returning?**
 3. **Have I identified the root?**
 4. **What does God's Word say about it?**
 5. **What change do I need to make?**
 6. **Am I pursuing Jesus—the Everlasting Source—or simply looking for another quick fix?**
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The Big Idea

STOP PATCHING. START PURSUING THE SOURCE.

Duct tape may temporarily hold something together.

A Band-Aid may temporarily cover a wound.

But God wants us to go deeper.

Find the root.

Go to the Word.

Seek Jesus.

Pursue the Everlasting Source.

Produce lasting results.

The teaching's first source summarizes the message this way: God desires to lead His children away from temporary solutions toward the everlasting Source, Jesus Christ. Go beyond quick fixes, like duct tape...

Jesus is the Everlasting Source.

God's Word is our standard of Truth.

Deal with the root.

Don't settle for quick fixes.

“He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus...” — 1 Corinthians 1:30 (RSV) Go beyond quick fixes, like duct tape...

4 Children 8 Objects – Part 3

Duct Tape

Go Beyond Quick Fixes:

From Temporary Methods to the Everlasting Source



1 The Object: Duct Tape

A picture of temporary solutions like duct tape or Band-Aids.



- A temporary fix
- Lasts for a limited time
- Eventually runs out
- Man-made

2 Two Main Goals

1 Pursue the everlasting Source for everlasting results.

2 Destroy the root (the real problem) to avoid continually using temporary methods.

A temporary method may have its place until we can get to the actual problem, but it is not the final answer.

3 Temporary Relief Is Not Always the Answer

Example: Medication

- Provided temporary relief.
- Was not the answer to the real problem (root).
- The root included:
 - Overworking
 - Little sleep
 - Little food
 - Unbalanced workload
- Changes had to be made.



If we do not get to the root problem, we will continue to wear out our life while using temporary methods.

4 God Never Runs Out

- Temporary methods run out.
- God never runs out of anything.
- Jesus is our everlasting Source.
- Jesus has an indestructible life.



Hebrews 7:16 (RSV)
"...by the power of an indestructible life."

5 The Woman Who Ran Out of Options

She tried everything, spent all her resources on doctors, and still could not be healed. Then she came to Jesus.

Luke 8:43 (AMP)

"And a woman who had suffered from a flow of blood for twelve years and had spent all her living upon physicians, and could not be healed by anyone."



6 Don't Gain the World and Lose the Source

Temporary success, possessions, and comfort mean nothing if we become spiritually bankrupt.

Mark 8:36 (AMP)

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit this life...?"

1 Timothy 6:6-8 (RSV)

"There is great gain in godliness with contentment..."



7 The Rich Fool

He stored up earthly wealth but was not rich toward God. Temporary success means nothing if we are spiritually bankrupt.



Luke 12:16-21

A warning against storing up treasures on earth without cultivating a rich relationship with God.

8 The Word of God Is Our Source

- Do not labor for what perishes, but for what endures to everlasting life.
- Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.
- Scripture is profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness.



John 6:27 | Matthew 4:4
2 Timothy 3:16-17

9 The Plumb Line: God's Standard of Truth

A plumb line is a cord with a weight used to determine if a structure is vertical. Spiritually, it represents God's standard of truth.

Amos 7:7-8 (AMP)

"...behold, I am setting a plumb line among My people..."

John 14:6 (NKJV)

"I am the way, the truth, and the life."



10 Get to the Root

Duct tape can cover something, but it does not remove the problem. Unless we destroy the root problem, we will continue to rely on temporary methods.



- ✓ What is the root?
- ✓ What does God's Word say?
- ✓ What change do I need to make?

Personal Application

1. What temporary method have I been relying on?
2. What problem keeps returning?
3. Have I identified the root?
4. What does God's Word say about it?
5. What change do I need to make?
6. Am I pursuing Jesus—the Everlasting Source—or simply looking for another quick fix?

The Big Idea

**STOP PATCHING.
START PURSUING THE SOURCE.**

Find the root. Go to the Word. Seek Jesus.
Pursue the Everlasting Source. Produce lasting results.



Jesus is the Everlasting Source.



God's Word is our standard of Truth.



Deal with the root.



Don't settle for quick fixes.

"He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption." — 1 Corinthians 1:30 (RSV)