

4 Children, 8 Objects — Part 7

Object #3: The Business Card Holder — Receiving, Holding, and Sharing

Introduction

Today we move forward to **Object #3: a business card holder with business cards.**

A business card holder has a simple purpose: **it holds information.** The information is found on the cards inside it. A business card can give someone a quick snapshot of who a person is, what they do, and how they can be contacted.

Now we take that simple object and turn it into a spiritual teaching.

The **card holder and the cards** can help us understand something about our **body, spirit, and soul**, as well as our responsibility to receive, hold, and share what God has entrusted to us.

1. The Holder — Our Body

Think about the **outer case** of the business card holder.

The case provides a place to hold the cards. In this analogy, the case represents our **body**, which carries and houses what God has placed within us.

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 NKJV

“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.”

The teaching material emphasizes an important truth:

The real person is not merely the outer body.

The body is the vessel—the outer shell—but God is concerned with what is taking place within us.

So, we should ask:

What am I carrying inside this body that God has entrusted to me?

2. The Cards — Information Within Us

The cards represent the **information contained within us**, connected in the analogy with our **spirit and soul**.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV

“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The Scripture clearly identifies **spirit, soul, and body**.

The business card holder therefore gives us a picture:

The case holds the cards.

The body carries what God has entrusted to us.

But there is an important question:

Before something can be held, what must happen?

It must first be received.

3. RECEIVE — Accept What God Gives

Imagine a businessperson receiving a business card from someone who is in charge.

The card has information on it. If the person refuses to receive the card, they could lose a valuable opportunity.

Spiritually, the same principle applies with much more at stake.

We must be willing to **receive** what God gives us.

John 1:12 NKJV

“But as many as **received Him**, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.”

The teaching connects receiving with accepting God's **truth, identity, calling, and purpose**. Without **receiving HIM**, people can lose hope, even salvation.

Ask yourself:

Am I willing to receive what God is giving me?

Or am I rejecting the information because it challenges the way I have been thinking?

4. HOLD — Steward What You Receive

Receiving is not the end.

Once the business cards (*God's word*) are received, the card holder (*Those in Christ*) has another responsibility:

Hold them.

The holder (*Those in Christ*) protects and preserves the cards, (*God's word*) so they remain available when needed.

Spiritually, we are also called to **steward what God has entrusted to us.**

2 Timothy 1:14 NKJV

“That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.”

God does not simply give us truth so we can hear it once and forget it.

We are to **keep it.**

We receive the truth.

We hold the truth.

We preserve the truth.

We allow the truth to become part of how we live.

The teaching describes this as being entrusted with God's truths, spiritual gifts, and our calling to represent Him on earth.

5. What Is Our “Business”?

There is another important word in this object lesson:

BUSINESS

The teaching points us to Jesus.

When Jesus was still young, His parents found Him in the temple.

Luke 2:49 NKJV

“And He said to them, ‘Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?’”

Jesus understood that He had a purpose.

He knew what His Father's business was.

And Jesus later told His disciples:

John 17:18

“As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.”

Jesus was sent.

We are sent.

Therefore, the question becomes:

What is our business?

Our business is not simply what we do for a living.

Our spiritual business is connected to the mission Jesus has given us—to represent Him and make His message known.

6. SHARE — Don't Keep It in the Holder

Here is where the analogy comes full circle.

What is the purpose of a business card?

It is not merely to **store** cards.

The cards are eventually **shared**.

Likewise, God's truth is not intended to remain locked inside us.

Matthew 5:16 NKJV

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

We **receive** God's truth.

We **hold** God's truth.

Then we **share** what we have received.

The teaching material connects this sharing with representing Christ and communicating the message of **salvation, reconciliation, and hope**.

The Three-Part Process

The entire object lesson can be remembered with three simple words:

1. RECEIVE

We accept God's calling, identity, truth, and purpose.

2. HOLD

We nurture, preserve, and steward what God has entrusted to us.

3. SHARE

We carry out the mission and connect others to God.

A Living Business Card

Think about what happens when someone hands you a business card.

You can learn something about that person from the information printed on it.

In the same way, **people should be able to see something of Christ through our lives.**

The teaching connects this idea with **2 Corinthians 3:3**, describing believers as “living epistles”—our lives can provide a representation of Christ to the world.

So, our lives should communicate:

Who is Christ?

What has Christ done?

What does Christ offer?

What does it mean to follow Him?

Personal Application

Take a moment and examine the three stages:

RECEIVE

Am I receiving God's truth, direction, calling, and purpose?

HOLD

Am I keeping and stewarding what God has entrusted to me?

SHARE

Am I allowing what God has placed within me to reach other people?

A business card holder that never receives cards is empty.

A holder that receives cards but never preserves them is failing to steward them.

And cards that are never shared never fulfill their purpose.

God has entrusted something to you.

Receive it.

Hold it.

Share it.

That is the movement of this object lesson: **from receiving information to stewarding information to fulfilling the mission.**

Key Thought

“Don't just carry what God has given you—receive it, hold it, and share it.”

Object Lesson Summary

BUSINESS CARD HOLDER → BODY

The vessel that carries what has been entrusted to us.

BUSINESS CARDS → SPIRIT & SOUL / INFORMATION

What is contained within us.

RECEIVE → HOLD → SHARE

The process of accepting God's truth, stewarding it, and fulfilling His mission.



4 Children, 8 Objects – Part 7

Object #3: Business Card Holder

Receives, Holds, and Shares God's Information

What Is It?

A business card holder holds information. The information is on the business cards. A business card provides a snapshot of the person as an individual.

Spiritual Analogy

The card holder and the cards are like our body, spirit, and soul.

- The **case** (outer shell) represents our **body** holding information.
- The business cards represent information on our **spirit and soul**.

1 RECEIVE

Accept What God Gives



Before we can hold information, we must first receive it.

Spiritually, before we can hold and steward what God has entrusted to us, we must first be willing to receive His truth, His calling, and His purpose.

John 1:12 (NKJV)

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name."

2 HOLD

Steward What You Receive



The holder preserves and protects the cards. Spiritually, we are entrusted with God's truths, the gifts of the Spirit, and our calling to represent Him on earth.

2 Timothy 1:14 (NKJV)

"That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us."

3 SHARE

Fulfilling the Mission



The purpose of business cards is to share them, creating connections and extending influence. Spiritually, we are called to share the gospel and reflect God's character.

Matthew 5:16 (NKJV)

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

Our "Business"

Jesus said, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"

Luke 2:49 (NKJV)

As Jesus was sent, we are also sent. Our business is to share the message of salvation, reconciliation, and hope.

John 17:18 (KJV)



The Body, Spirit, and Soul



Body (Case)
Holds the information
1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Spirit & Soul (Cards)
Represents the information
1 Thessalonians 5:23

The Complete Process

1 • **Receive** – We accept God's calling and identity.

2 • **Hold** – We nurture and steward the truth within us.

3 • **Share** – We carry out the mission, connecting others to God.