

4 Children, 8 Objects — Part 8

The Business Card Holder: Receiving and Rejecting God's Information

Introduction

We are continuing our study of the **four elements that relate to God's information—His knowledge and His Word.**

The third object is a **business card holder containing business cards.**

The business card holder gives us a practical picture of how information is received, held, transported, and delivered. In the same way, God entrusts His Word and His knowledge to us so that we can receive it, guard it, carry it responsibly, and accurately communicate it to others.

The key issue is this:

Everything begins with receiving.

If information is rejected, there is nothing to hold, nothing to transport, and nothing to deliver.

1. The Four Elements of Handling God's Information

The business card holder represents our responsibility for information.

1. Receiving

Do not reject God's information.

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

2. Holding

Safely guard what we have received.

Once received, the information must be retained and protected.

3. Transporting

Be responsible with what God has entrusted to us.

We are not meant to keep God's truth only for ourselves.

4. Delivering

Be thorough and attentive to detail.

When we communicate God's information, we need to handle it carefully.

These four elements were identified in the teaching as **Receiving, Holding, Transporting, and Delivering**.

2. Information Is Knowledge

The word **information** is important throughout this teaching.

Information is the communication or reception of knowledge. It can also refer to knowledge gained through investigation, study, or instruction.

One synonym for information is **knowledge**.

This brings us directly to Scripture:

2 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)

“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.”

Key principle:

Our knowledge of the Lord is intended to grow.

We should not expect spiritual growth to happen instantly. We need to give God's Word time to take root and develop in us.

3. Receiving Requires a Willing Heart

Proverbs 19:20 (RSV) says:

“Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom for the future.”

There are two important actions here:

Listen.

Accept.

Receiving God's information requires us to be willing to hear and receive instruction.

We cannot grow in knowledge while continually rejecting the information God is giving us.

4. Growth Is a Process

Spiritual growth is a process, and processes require patience.

The teaching makes an important observation:

Before a plant comes up, its roots need to go down first.

Consider:

2 Kings 19:30 (RSV)

“And the surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.”

We cannot normally see roots developing beneath the ground.

But that does not mean nothing is happening.

The same can be true spiritually.

You may not immediately see outward results from receiving God's Word, but God can be establishing something underneath the surface.

5. There Is a Progression

Jesus illustrated this progression in Mark 4.

Mark 4:28–29 (NKJV)

“First the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head.”

The progression is:

First → Then → After That → Harvest

This is important because we can become discouraged when we do not see immediate results.

But growth takes place progressively.

Do not reject the process because you cannot yet see the harvest.

Roots develop before fruit appears.

Knowledge develops before maturity becomes visible.

Receiving comes before holding.

Holding comes before transporting.

Transporting comes before delivering.

6. Everything Stops When We Reject

This is one of the central truths of this teaching:

Everything stops if we reject.

If we reject the information, we cannot:

- Hold it.
- Transport it.
- Deliver it.

The teaching material emphasizes that **receiving is foundational because nothing else can happen after rejection.**

Therefore, we need to examine what we are receiving.

What information are we allowing into our lives?

Are we receiving God's Word?

Are we receiving His instruction?

Are we receiving truth?

Or are we rejecting information that challenges us, corrects us, or requires us to change?

7. Rejecting God's Word Has Consequences

The Bible gives serious examples of rejection.

Numbers 14:11 (NKJV)

“How long will these people reject Me? And how long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them?”

The issue was not simply that information had been presented.

The issue was that the people **rejected** what God had shown them.

The same principle appears in Acts 13 when Paul and Barnabas encountered people who rejected the Good News.

Important distinction:

Hearing information is not the same as receiving information.

We can hear God's Word and still reject it.

We can read Scripture and still refuse its instruction.

We can know what God says and choose not to receive it.

8. We Cannot Reject Jesus and Expect to Receive the Father

The teaching also brings us to an essential truth concerning Jesus.

1 John 2:23 (NKJV)

“Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.”

Jesus cannot be treated as optional.

Receiving the Father includes receiving the Son.

The teaching emphasizes the connection between receiving Jesus and receiving the Father.

9. What Should We Do When Someone Rejects the Message?

There is also an important application for those who share the Gospel.

Jesus told His disciples in:

Matthew 10:14 (NKJV)

“And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet.”

There comes a point when we move on.

Our responsibility is to faithfully deliver God's message.

We cannot force someone to receive it.

Our responsibility:

Receive → Hold → Transport → Deliver

Their response belongs to them.

The teaching applies this to evangelism: when someone rejects the message, move on to the next person rather than remaining trapped in the rejection.

10. Is the Bible God's Word?

A helpful question when speaking with someone about Jesus is:

“Do you believe that the Bible is God's Word?”

Jesus connected belief in the Scriptures with belief in Him.

John 5:46–47 (NKJV)

“For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?”

This brings us back to receiving.

It comes down to this:

Will I receive God's Word?

11. Receiving Information From the Right Source

John 5:39–44 describes people who searched the Scriptures but were unwilling to come to Jesus.

They had access to information.

They investigated the Scriptures.

But they did not receive the One to whom the Scriptures pointed.

That gives us a powerful warning:

It is possible to handle information without receiving its truth.

We can read.

We can study.

We can investigate.

But God's purpose is not merely for us to possess information.

His purpose is for His truth to transform our lives.

12. Without Receiving, There Is Nothing to Hold

If we reject the information at the beginning, the entire process stops.

We cannot hold what we refuse to receive.

We cannot transport what we refuse to hold.

And we cannot deliver what we never received.

Why?

Because you rejected it at the beginning.

That is the object lesson.

The entire process depends upon the first element.

Receiving is the starting point.

No receiving = no holding.

No holding = no transporting.

No transporting = no delivering.

Therefore:

RECEIVE THE INFORMATION!

13. The Four Elements Can Also Work in the Negative

There is another side to this lesson.

The same four elements can operate with **wrong information**.

The teaching applies the four elements to wrong thoughts concerning our spouse, children, and grandchildren.

We can:

1. Receive wrong information.

A thought enters our mind.

2. Hold wrong information.

We allow the thought to remain.

3. Transport wrong information.

We carry it with us and allow it to influence our actions.

4. Deliver wrong information.

We eventually communicate it through our words and behavior.

This is why we must pay attention to what we receive.

14. Wrong Information Produces Wrong Words

The Bible gives us a powerful warning about our words.

Proverbs 12:18 (AMP)

“There are those who speak rashly, like the piercing of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”

Our words can wound.

Our words can also heal.

Proverbs 18:21 (RSV)

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.”

The information we receive can eventually influence what we say.

Therefore, we need to ask:

What am I allowing into my heart and mind?

What am I holding?

What am I carrying?

What am I delivering to others?

15. The Business Card Holder Becomes a Picture of Our Responsibility

The business card holder represents our body holding information.

The business cards represent information connected with our spirit and soul.

The word **business** is also significant.

Jesus said:

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

Jesus was about His Father's business.

As believers, we also have a responsibility concerning the Father's business.

We must learn to handle His information correctly.

The teaching object lesson identifies the holder as representing the body and the cards as representing information associated with the spirit and soul.

16. Personal Application

Take some time to examine your own life.

What am I receiving?

Am I receiving God's Word or primarily receiving information from other sources?

What am I holding?

What thoughts, beliefs, attitudes, and teachings am I allowing to remain?

What am I transporting?

What am I carrying from one situation into another?

What am I delivering?

What am I communicating to my spouse, children, grandchildren, greatgrandchildren friends, coworkers, and others?

17. The Main Lesson

The entire teaching can be summarized with one progression:

RECEIVE

↓

HOLD

↓

TRANSPORT

↓

DELIVER

But remember:

Everything begins with receiving.

If we reject God's information, the process stops.

If we receive His truth, we can hold it securely, carry it responsibly, and deliver it accurately.

Conclusion

God has given us His Word.

Our responsibility is not merely to hear it but to **receive it**.

We need to allow God's truth to take root in us. We must be patient with the process of growth, recognizing that roots may develop before fruit becomes visible.

The business card holder gives us a simple but powerful picture:

You cannot hold what you refuse to receive.

You cannot transport what you refuse to hold.

You cannot deliver what you refuse to transport.

Therefore, pay attention to what you receive.

Receive God's truth.

Hold it securely.

Transport it responsibly.

Deliver it carefully.

And remember the progression:

FIRST — RECEIVE

THEN — HOLD

AFTER THAT — TRANSPORT

FINALLY — DELIVER

The process cannot move forward when we reject God's information.

4 CHILDREN 8 OBJECTS PART 8

THE BUSINESS CARD HOLDER RECEIVING AND REJECTING GOD'S INFORMATION

"Grow in the grace
and knowledge of our
Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ."
2 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)

THE THIRD OBJECT



- The business card holder represents our body holding information.
- The business cards represent information on our spirit and soul.
- The word "business" is important. Our business is like Jesus' business when He was here on earth. (Luke 2:49)

GROWTH IS A PROCESS

Before a plant comes up, the roots need to go down first. We cannot see the roots, but it does happen. Be patient.

FIRST
The blade

THEN
The head

AFTER THAT
The full grain
in the head

HARVEST

Mark 4:28-29 (NKJV)

THE FOUR ELEMENTS OF HANDLING GOD'S INFORMATION

Just like the UPS drivers. We are responsible for God's information.



RECEIVE → HOLD → TRANSPORT → DELIVER

THE PROCESS CANNOT MOVE FORWARD
WHEN WE REJECT GOD'S INFORMATION.