

“Emotional Bank Account—Part 4”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of Dec. 7, 2024.

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued a series with a presentation titled “Emotional Bank Account—Part 4.” Following are the four subtitles of the first four presentations.

- The subtitle for the first presentation was “Father and Son Make Deposits Into Your Emotional Bank Account.”
- The subtitle for the second presentation was “God Made Positive Withdrawals From Christ’s Emotional Bank Account.”
- The subtitle for the third presentation was “God Makes Positive Withdrawals From Disciples’ Emotional Bank Account.”
- The subtitle for the fourth presentation was “Situations Where Disciples Make Positive Withdrawals From People.”

Change of emphasis

In the fourth presentation, there was an obvious change of emphasis.

- The first three presentations focused upon what God does—while the fourth presentation focused upon what disciples can do.
- The first three presentations focused upon God making positive withdrawals (in connection with his positive deposits)—while the fourth presentation mentioned that there are times when disciples make positive withdrawals from other people.

(Although it may not have been overly stressed in the fourth presentation, it is certainly understood that disciples should be regularly giving positive deposits.)

Weekly reminder by Covey

Author Stephen Covey wrote about “the Emotional Bank Account” in his book *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. Following are excerpts.

On page 188, Covey wrote: “We all know what a financial bank account is. We make deposits into it and build up a reserve from which we can make withdrawals when

we need it. An Emotional Bank Account is a metaphor that describes the amount of trust that's been built up in a relationship. It's the feeling of safeness you have with another human being.

"If I make deposits into an Emotional Bank Account with you through courtesy, kindness, honesty, and keeping my commitments to you, I build up a reserve. Your trust toward me becomes higher, and I call upon that trust many times if I need to. I can even make mistakes and that trust level (that emotional reserve) will compensate for it."

Later in this series

As this series progresses, we are going to focus upon Covey's words to reach the following goals.

- We want to make good deposits into the lives of other people.
- We want to deal with the negative withdrawals that people make toward us.

Father's deposits to mankind

Here are quick reminders about the Father's deposits to mankind.

- John 10:1-30
- Romans 8:31-39
- 2 Corinthians 1:3-10

Father's withdrawals from the Son

Here are quick reminders about the Father's withdrawals from the Son (which were also deposits for Him and for all of mankind).

- Matthew 16:21
- Matthew 26:37-38
- Matthew 27:46
- Hebrews 5:7-8

The Lord's withdrawals from disciples

Here are quick reminders about the Lord's withdrawals from disciples.

- Genesis 50:20—about Joseph
- Deuteronomy 3:23-27—about Moses
- 2 Samuel 12:13-23—about David
- Job 1:8-12 and Job 2:3-6—about Job
- 2 Corinthians 12:7-11—about Paul

Three examples of making positive withdrawals

- Ephesians 5:21-33—Marriage
- Ephesians 6:1-4—Parenting
- Ephesians 6:5-9—Employment

Marriage

- Ephesians 5:21—Submitting to each other means making deposits and withdrawals.
- Ephesians 5:22-33—Love and respect equal deposits and withdrawals.
- 1 Corinthians 7:3-5—Romance among couples equals agreement and service.

Parenting

- Ephesians 6:1-4—Parents who lead their children use deposits and withdrawals.
- Hebrews 12:5-11—Parents who lead their children use correction (which should be considered a withdrawal that leads to a deposit).
- Mark 7:9-13—Children who love their aging parents often get to the point of enacting restrictions (which should be considered withdrawals that lead to deposits).

Employment

- Ephesians 6:5-9—When employers establish certain principles and standards, those can be viewed as withdrawals.
- Colossians 4:1—Employers are expected to be just and fair.

Reminders

As we continue in this series, we are going to talk about the following Christian-living goals.

- We want to make good deposits into the lives of other people.
- We want to deal with the negative withdrawals that people make toward us.