




*The Divine Blueprint for
Spiritual Growth (and Life) Part 2*

John 15:7-11





1. To “abide in me” is to remain “connected” to Jesus as my spiritual, life-giving, source.

A. In reference to “who?”

B. In reference to “when?”

- Remain, continuous, day-by-day.

C. In reference to “how?”

- Purpose focused – Expectation of Christ of His followers – to bear fruit.

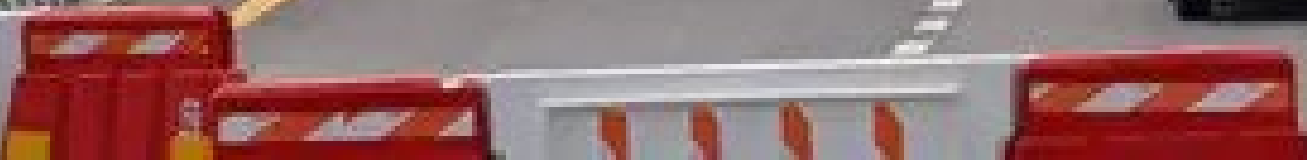
- Isn't Jesus' blueprint for spiritual growth "legalistic"? Is it "works based"? What if I "mess up" (v6)?
- **Jn. 15:11** These things I have spoken to you, that *my joy may be in you*, and that *your joy may be full*. (ESV)
- **Rom. 2:4** Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not *knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?* (ESV)



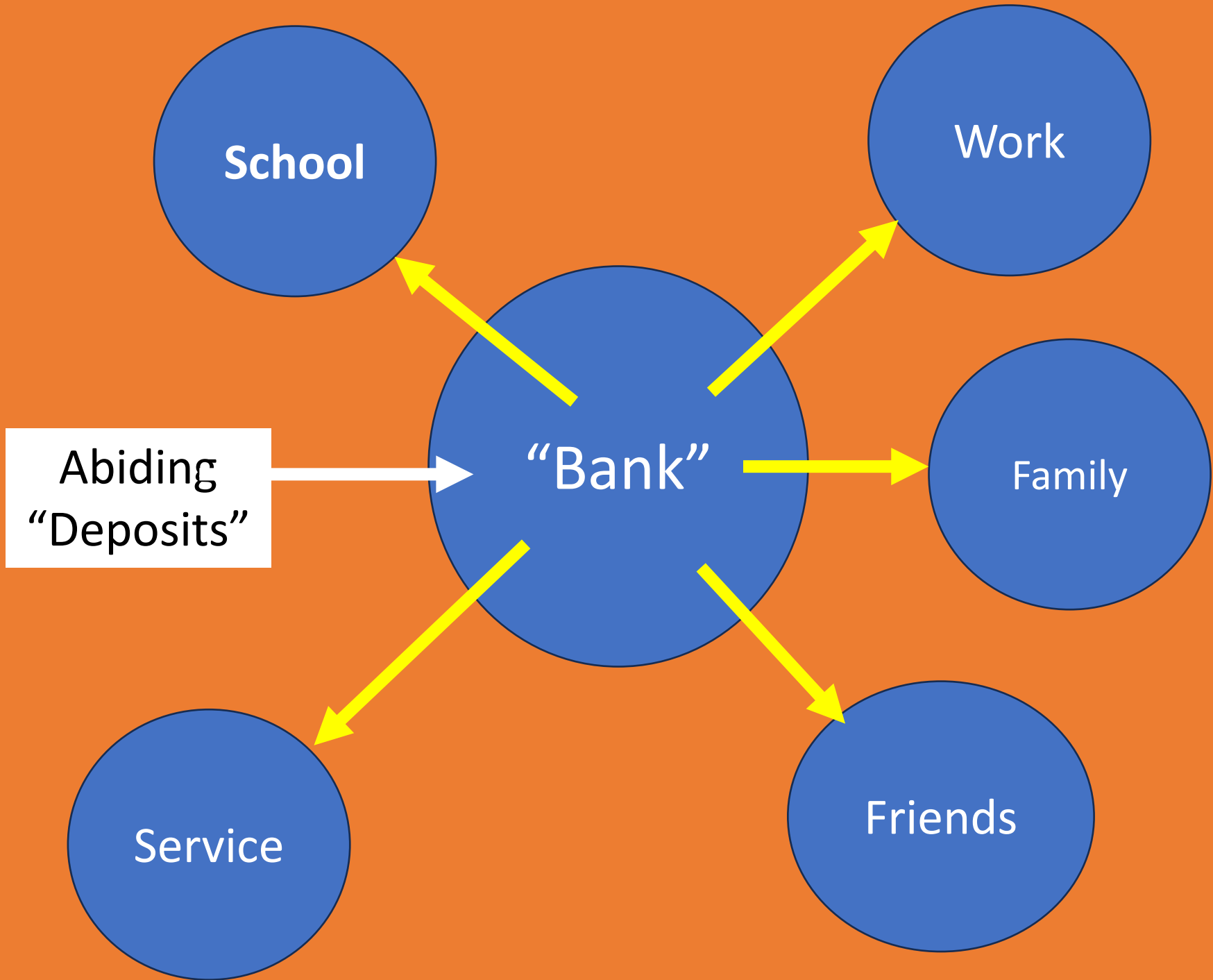
देश के सबसे लम्बे आगरा-लखनऊ एक्सप्रेसवे
पर आपका स्वागत है



सावधान
भारी वाहन
प्रवेश निषिद्ध



- When I “abide in Christ,” regularly, it is like making deposits into my spiritual bank account, from which withdrawals are made for life circumstances.
- **Ps. 1:1-3** Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;² but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.³ He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. (ESV)



2. What should we expect to happen in our lives when the words of Christ abide in us?

A. *Jesus' words transform my truth. John 8:31-32.*

B. *Prayers are reshaped - bc the HS shapes and forms them.*

- *In His name. J 14:13-14.*
- *My prayer is an "echo" of Jesus. I pray "in His name" bc my prayer represents Him. (Westcott)*

- Jesus has given us “permission” to use His name when we pray and to pray according to His will.
- Jn. 14:13-14 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. (ESV)
- **Rom. 8:26** Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. (ESV)

3. Answered prayers reveal the goodness of God. They move us to bear “much fruit” in his name, thereby proving the power of relationship in Christ.

- Jn. 15:8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. (ESV)







- Next Steps.

A. *Memorize John 15:7-8.*

- *Personalize the words as you do.*

B. *This coming week, “calculate” the balance in your spiritual bank account by quantifying the minutes you abide in Christ. Will you set a goal of “saving” 400 minutes that are available for you to withdraw from?*