

When we allow God to direct every moment—not worrying how the future will unfold—we can't help but experience complete satisfaction.

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I had been worrying about future income, to the point that it was making me feel stressful, unworthy, and unfulfilled. I was also feeling sick with a miserable cold. And I had begun to behave and think differently out of a fear of insufficiency in the future, even though I had all I needed at the time.

As I began to pray about this, I started with the line of the Lord's Prayer, "Give us this day our daily bread." My need was being met daily, but as I looked to the future, I couldn't see it continuing. I was approaching the situation from a perspective of spiritual provision meeting a material human need. It wasn't connecting. How could a spiritual supply meet a human need? It didn't feel calming, and I wasn't finding healing from the stress, worry, or the cold by just the assurance that God would give me my daily bread. I felt that I needed to understand how.

As I continued to pray and study, I realized I needed to first seek "the kingdom of God, and his righteousness" (see Matt. 6: 31–34), instead of worrying about future finances. I searched the Bible and *Science and Health* for the words *need* and *bread*, to get a better understanding of living in the kingdom of God. I realized that what I really needed was a better sense of grace, patience, meekness, and love. I needed not to be weary of doing good, and to prove that as a child of God I could demonstrate more of the childlike qualities of joy, spontaneity, and trust. I could also gain a clearer sense of Christ, Truth, as the bread from heaven.

Looking at the list, I saw that my need was in fact spiritual, not material. I noticed that all I needed was God. God is infinite and eternal; therefore, my need for Him was infinite and eternal. In fact, Mary Baker Eddy wrote in *Science and Health*: "There is no life, truth, intelligence, nor substance in matter.

I have our Father-Mother God today, and God's loving care is all I need today.

All is infinite Mind and its infinite manifestation . . ." (p. 468). If this is true, and I believe it is, my need could not be material at all. Of course it was easy then to see how ever-present divine Love could meet my infinite spiritual needs eternally.

I thought, I have our Father-Mother God today, and God's loving care is all I need today. Since God is unchanging good, I can expect God to meet my needs tomorrow, next month, next year, and forever.

That uplift of thought relieved my sense of burden, and released me from a sense of fear of the future. The warmth of love that came with this new understanding also melted away all symptoms of the cold, within that same day. I am so blessed to see how I can more fully express grace, patience, meekness, love, joy, spontaneity, and trust, and how that expression blesses others too.

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Like it or not, big changes are upon us all worldwide—on many fronts. Many cultural sensibilities are being bruised, and not just certain North American ones. That no one religion, culture, nation, nor political system is preferred by God over another is a deeply challenging concept for many people around the world. The collisions of entrenched political attitudes and power brokers with the evolving views of society seem proof to some that democracy has failed and Christian values are abandoned. Much conflict stems from people's fears about the future.

One morning while waiting for our church service to start, I felt impelled to pray about these oncoming changes. Suddenly I saw how thinkers through the ages, from Old Testament times forward, have recognized that the turmoil arising over controversial issues all point to the ceaseless action of Truth in human affairs. Mary Baker Eddy, who discovered Christian Science and founded the Christian Science Church, termed this process "*chemicalization* . . . the upheaval produced when immortal Truth is destroying erroneous mortal belief" (*Science and Health*, p. 401). A lot of erroneous belief and outright malfeasance is being confronted in the world just now. The demands of Truth are making themselves felt anywhere that Truth and Love have been submerged by tradition, self-interest, ignorance, or anything else that would deny that we are the children of God.

My prayer helped me see a bit more clearly that God loves each and every one of us—His children. The I AM has no favorites. I got a greater sense that chaos, randomness, *all* human economic, religious, and medical theories, are no part of God's creation. Every aspect of our being is underpinned by law—an immutable divine Principle, which perfectly regulates everything to the minutest detail.

Divine Love not only is teaching me how to let other people follow their highest sense of right, but when to back off. As a result, I'm seeing more harmony in my personal relationships, especially those where I don't share the same political views.

I left that morning seeing that church is about many things for many people. But for me just now, it's about the simple reassurance that the Bible states concerning the future: "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). icss

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