

Under-living Our Due
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Many years ago, Peter Deyneka was immigrating to America on a long Atlantic voyage with only a few coins in his pocket. When he got hungry, he reached into a little bag he'd brought with him. He rationed the contents of his meal bag, eating the same thing every meal - a few dry crusts of bread washed down with water. When his ship finally docked in New York, Peter was pretty hungry, not to mention pretty sick of bread crusts. That's when he realized something that he'd wished he had understood at the beginning of the voyage - three full meals a day had been included in his fare.

Peter had been living at a much lower level than he needed to live! He had no idea all the good things he could have had and even was entitled to with his ticket.

When God looks at us sailing through life, He sees many of us living the same way - under-living. Not realizing how we could be living and all of the abundant wealth of good things we have when we open our lives to Christ.

Imagine all the resources of God we can download: His wisdom for our questions, His power for our difficulties, His love for our lonely times, and His peace for our troubled times. We don't have to survive on a dried bread crust life when we have all the resources of God at our disposal!

One of the main ways these resources are accessed is through prayer. Many times we under-live because we under-pray. Many times we over-worry and overwork and get overwhelmed because we under-pray. To better access God's provision and power for our situation and need, it helps to first focus on our big, big God, not our big, big problem. Then, we need to trust God for His provision. Instead of just giving God our request list, let us enter into His presence. It helps to put our praise before our please and our worship before our request. When we take a little time to celebrate the awesomeness of our God, we start to access all the great resources that come with our ticket. We don't have to live the way we have been living. Let us not wait until we reach our heavenly destination to realize how we could have been living all along!

My prayer is the prayer of Paul in Philemon 1:6: "I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ."