



First United Methodist Church

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I heard someone make a comment once that there were so few "great" churches because there were so many "good" churches. I think there is a lot of truth to that and that truth applies to many areas of our life. We can get so satisfied with good things that we miss out on even better things because we are reluctant to follow God's leading.

There is an old legend of swan and a crane. A beautiful swan alighted by the banks of the water in which a crane was wading about seeking snails. For a few moments the crane looked at the swan in wonder and then asked:



"Where do you come from?"

"I come from heaven!" replied the swan.

"And where is heaven?" asked the crane.

"Heaven!" said the swan, "have you never heard of heaven?"

And the beautiful bird went on to describe the grandeur of the Eternal City. She told of streets of gold, and the gates and walls made of precious stones; of the river of life, pure as crystal, upon whose banks is the tree whose leaves shall be for the healing of the nations. In eloquent terms the swan sought to describe the hosts who live in the other world.

Finally the crane asked: "Are there any snails there?"

"Snails!" repeated the swan: "No! of course there are not."

"Then," said the crane as it continued its search along the slimy banks of the pool, "you can have your heaven, I want snails!"

Sometimes we too are so focused on our snails to receive the great gifts God has for us. If all you want is snails out of life, if all you work for are snails, you will miss out on much God has in store for you. Trust in Christ. Trust in His love and His will for your life.

See you in church, where we feast on more than snails!

Kevin

