Dear Lexie,

I'm sure that you are familiar with the proverb that says, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." In essence, the meaning is that it is better to focus your attention on what you already possess rather than worrying about what you do not have, and quite frankly, may never have in your grasp. Nevertheless, how many times have we spent our days worrying about those things that for the moment may be totally out of our reach, instead of paying careful attention to what is currently within our grasp?

...(read more below)

"A Bird in the Hand"

When I think about this saying, I can't help but be reminded of the encounter that Moses had with God as He called out to him, from of all places, a burning bush. He tells this former Prince of Egypt to go back to Pharaoh and demand that the Israelites be set free. From childhood I have loved hearing this story in church or, even better, seeing it depicted on television every Easter in Cecil B. DeMille's classic, the Ten Commandments.

One of my favorite parts in this story is when in response to God's command for Moses to return to Egypt to deliver His people from bondage, Moses proceeds to give God a host of reasons, or should I say
excuses, as to why he is fearful of carrying out God's calling upon his life. Moses brings up everything from his speech problem to the fact that no one will take him seriously. But what I find even more interesting than Moses' excuses is God's response. In Exodus 4:2 God says to Moses, "What is that in your hand?" And what Moses had in his hand was nothing more than a staff, or a shepherd's rod. When you read the story of the Exodus carefully, you will discover that this rod would later be used to produce water from a rock as well as to invoke plagues upon the Egyptians.

As is the case with many of us from time to time, Moses was more concerned about what he didn't have to carry out his mission than what he did have. Too many times we are of the opinion that the reason why we haven't been successful in our God-given tasks is due to what we need rather than in trusting God to use what we already have. When God calls you to do something, "a bird in the hand is always more than the two in the bush."

Charles A. Tapp
Senior Pastor

WAU BAND FESTIVAL

Washington Adventist University will host bands from SDA academies across the Columbia and Southern Unions from February 8 - 12. The combined bands will present a sacred concert at Spencerville SDA Church on Friday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m. and will also play for the February 11, 11:15 a.m. church service at Sligo Church. Please come to both events as we celebrate God!

WAU Russian Bible Translation Project Event
You are cordially invited to be part of a day of inspiring Russian music, fellowship and prayer.

**Saturday, February 25, 2012, 8:45 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.**
Sabbath Worship Service, featuring soloist from Russia, Elena Rudoy & Dr. Mikhail Kulakov's message "When Life is Worth Living"

**Saturday, February 25, 2012, 4 p.m.**
Musical concert, featuring soloist from Russia, Elena Rudoy

For more information about these events, please visit the website [www.russianbible.org](http://www.russianbible.org) or contact Dr. Kulakov at 301-576-0108 or <mkulakov@wau.edu>