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In today's reading, Jeremiah 7:23 says "My one command to them was this: Listen to my voice, then I will be your God and you shall be my people. In everything, follow the way that I mark out for you, and you shall prosper."

God wants us to be successful and happy, and all He asks is that we listen to His voice. This sounds like such a simple command, yet sometimes we seem to make a real mess of it! We become so bogged down with the menial day to day tasks, work, paying bills,...

all the noises and distractions of life tend to drown out the voice of God. It becomes harder and harder to hear Him.

I have the privilege of working with the St. Paul high school seniors each Wednesday night. This past weekend, they planned and hosted the confirmation retreat for the junior class. It was such a gift to see them sharing their love for Christ through words and action. These students are a beautiful example of following God's command to listen and follow. While they are preparing to begin a new chapter and may not know exactly what path they wish to take... where they are going to college... what they will major in...

they are fulfilling their greater purpose by living their faith as God calls us all to do. Through ministry, evangelization and service, these young people not only serve as a witness to the younger members of our Youth Group, but to all members of our parish. They inspire me everyday to strengthen my relationship with God and continue to listen with an open mind and open heart for what He is calling me to do.

Are you listening?