

In today's first reading from Isaiah, God says "I will" eleven times!

The verse that struck me is, "FEAR NOT, I WILL HELP YOU."

But, I really had a problem hearing what it was GOD was trying to tell me. I know that the Bible is the living word of God, and that God speaks to us in our needs. I like to underline words and write in the margins of my Bible. Sometimes when I go back, at a later date, and reread a verse and my remarks in the margins, I say to myself, "How did I get that out of this verse?" I can tell you what it is, God speaks to me in my needs.

That is what happened with this verse, "Fear not I will help you." I had to turn it over to Him. He is in charge, not me.

Father Burke Masters says, "When we allow the Word of God to wash over us every day, our faith deepens and we realize He is in control."

At this time of the year, during Advent and Christmas, I worry about things of the season and try to take control of THEM. In doing this, I don't always pray or listen to God as I should.

Today's reflection in the Word Among Us states, "Even if you can't spend as much time in prayer as you'd like, you can always turn your gaze to the Lord during the day. Doing so can help to remind you why you are buying gifts, making special foods, or decorating your home – so that you can welcome Jesus and rejoice in His coming to earth."

It goes on to say, "This Advent, try to put aside for awhile all the to-do items on your list. Start first with the only task that will truly satisfy your heart: time with the Lord!"

THAT IS WHAT I AM GOING TO TRY AND DO, SPEND MORE TIME WITH JESUS.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!