Who am I? What am I supposed to do? How am I supposed to handle going out into the world alone?

I think this is the question a lot of high school seniors are asking themselves, and have been all year. I know I have been.

In Samuel god calls, in the middle of the night, and tells Samuel what to do. “Wake up, and follow these instructions”

I've been pondering the idea of the call. You know, the god call. Have I been called? I don't know. What does the call sound like? Do the heavens open like they did for Samuel? Will I see a burning bush like Moses? Is it a phone call? Did god leave me a voicemail?

Is the call that feeling in my stomach, or the fleeting certainty I have once in a while that this is where I should be?

Sometimes, once in a while, I am sure of myself. When I sing with my school choir on a bus, when I get a laugh from the audience during a play, when the constant anxiety that churns in my stomach quiets for a moment. Is that the call?

I don't know if I want to listen to the call. I don't like being bossed around. I'm stubborn.

Because if I am called, where is my agency? Or is the call just baptism, or confirmation and the rest is up to me?

Am I alone? Or am I a puppet?

God? Are you looking out for me, or pushing me. Are you laying out a path I'm allowed to stray from?

This is a time of uncertainty. This is a time where we aren't sure. Did we pick the right college? Did we do everything we were supposed to in high
school? Are we fearfully and wonderfully made after all, or are we just the mistakes we tend to reduce ourselves to?

I turn to psalms when I am floating in this uncertainty. I like psalms. They are incredibly human. In the psalms people are angry at god, or heartbroken, or confused and sad.

And yet, most of the time they end with trust.

I like that. I like that in the psalms people get to live uncertainty, and doubt, and fear and questions, and yet... they trust.

They have faith in god. They are okay with not knowing.

Psalms 139 says that god is with us always, guiding but not pushing, loving, but not controlling. Psalms 139 says we are fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalms 139 says that we are allowed to be human, and god likes us anyway.

And so, I am uncertain. I do not know what my life holds going forward. I don't know if I will be an actress or if I will open my theatre company, or if I will go to seminary and become a priest. I do not know if god holds all the cards or if he just wants to see where I go next.

But I am okay.

I refuse to give up my agency in the face of being “called” or in the face of “god’s plan.” I like the god of psalm 129, The god who says “you are, as you are, fearfully and wonderfully made. Now go make mistakes. I will be with you.”

Am I called? Aren't we all?

What are we called to do?

2 Corinthians says it is to let our light shine. I like that.

I want to be a light. If god is calling me to light up the darkness for someone, I am listening. I want to be a light. I want to give goodness to the world, I want to make a difference, being positive change.
Is that it God?

I spent my school year going out on college auditions for musical theatre and acting programs. Out of 15 or so programs I got into one. It seemed like that was the choice I had to make. I’d worked so hard and if I didn’t go there, I was crazy, right? God was telling me something. Right? But it didn’t feel right.
I opted for a non-audition school where I felt I could shine my light, and my gut told me it was the right choice.

Every day we make hard choices that don’t always seem to be the “right choice.” It’s up to us to know where we can be our best, how we can be our best.
We all make the wrong choices sometimes, but those choices belong to us.

Fearfully and wonderfully, God is with us. Unconditionally, God is with us.

When we are light or darkness, when we are certain or uncertain, God is with us.

And I trust that god will be with me as I take my next steps.

I trust that he will give me the choice to be a light. I trust that I will make mistakes and mess up and feel bad and he will be there.

That trust, those choices, that faith that we are not alone... Maybe that’s the call.