

JOHN 11:1-45

"FOR MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS, NEITHER ARE YOUR WAYS MY WAYS," DECLARES THE LORD. ISAIAH 55:9

# TRUST THE PROCESS

WHEN YOU'RE GOING FOR FOOD, OR PICKING A MOVIE WITH YOUR FRIENDS, HOW EASY DO YOU FIND IT TO CHOOSE?

WHAT CAN BE FRUSTRATING ABOUT THAT PROCESS?



WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM FR MIKE SCHMITZ: "GOD'S WAYS ARE NOT OUR WAYS" AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW



Why does Fr Mike laugh at the situation he describes between friends trying to choose?

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What does he suggest is actually happening in that process when one friend tells another one to choose?

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What two reactions can we have to the process?

OR

**Whether we like the process or not, it works!**

In what ways can we apply this to how we deal with God?

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How can we respond to God like the Nike slogan? ✓



God doesn't just act in this way however. Oftentimes the process is painful, and we find we have to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ again and again.

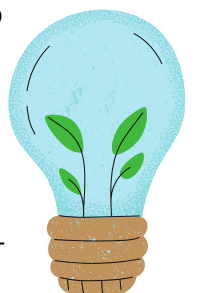
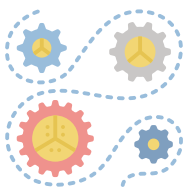
We might have to experience a broken heart in order for God to \_\_\_\_\_.

We might have to walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death to realise that God \_\_\_\_\_.

The process is how God can grow our \_\_\_\_\_.

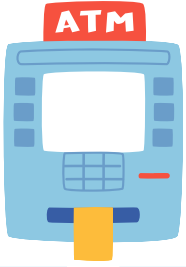
What two reactions can we have to this process?

\_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_



## TRUST THE PROCESS

JOHN 11:1-45



**God is not our ATM, or a fortune teller, or a crystal ball.**

God is our \_\_\_\_\_ and He loves us. He's in the process of making us the kind of people who \_\_\_\_\_.

**He allows us to participate in that process. Don't resist.**



### Now Read John 11:1-45



There's a lot going on in this Gospel that's hard for those involved to understand. Why did Jesus not go straight to Bethany when He heard Lazarus was ill? Jesus stated *"This sickness will not end in death"* and yet Lazarus died. Jesus waited a full two days before He left for Bethany. He told His disciples Lazarus was resting (meaning dead) and He was going to wake Him. Can you just imagine the confusion? Yet that was nothing compared to the confusion and devastation Martha and Mary must have felt that Jesus came too late to heal their brother. But still, in the midst of this chaos and grief, Martha still had full faith in Jesus' ability to do all things. She recognised that He was the Christ. The onlookers had seen Jesus work great miracles, and knew He could have prevented Lazarus' death. So much frustration, grief and even anger and confusion. Then Jesus asks for the stone to be rolled away from the tomb and commands Lazarus to rise from the dead. Trust in the process - God's ways are not our ways. Now Jesus' earlier words about Lazarus' sickness made sense: *"through it the Son of God will be glorified"*. Through the tears and the pain, the doubt and the darkness of the tomb, it was difficult to trust in the process, yet Jesus showed His divinity in a far greater way than if He had simply healed Lazarus of his sickness. This great miracle was to foretell His own death and resurrection. We can only imagine how much the Apostles and disciples of Jesus had to look back on and marvel on after His resurrection when the process started to make sense in light of His Passion, Death and Resurrection!



**MISSION!**

DO YOU FIND IT DIFFICULT TO TRUST IN GOD AND HIS WAYS? TRY A SIMPLE VERSION OF THE NOVENA OF SURRENDER THIS WEEK. EACH DAY, BRING TO MIND A PARTICULAR AREA OF YOUR LIFE THAT CAUSES YOU WORRY, AND THEN VISUALISE YOURSELF LAYING IT DOWN AT THE FEET OF JESUS, AND TEN TIMES REPEAT THE PRAYER BELOW. ACTIVELY TRUST IN THE PROCESS AND TRUST IN GOD WHO KNOWS ALL THINGS, INCLUDING WHAT IS BEST FOR YOUR LIFE!



**PRAYER TIME!**

### **Novena of Surrender Prayer**

Jesus I surrender myself to You,  
take care of everything!

**Click here for  
the full 9 Day  
Novena of  
Surrender**



## CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON TRUSTING GOD



- Walk by Faith (Jeremy Camp)
- It is well with my soul (Matt Redman)
- Trust You (Aaron Keyes)
- Our God is Able (Hillsong)
- Nothing is Impossible (Planetshakers)
- Waymaker (Leeland)
- Your Promises (Elevation Worship)
- In God we trust (Hillsong)



Healing as a Process: Fr Patrick Cahill



"For my thoughts are not your thoughts"  
Teresa from Holy Family Mission