

**Sermon Notes for November 1, 2009**  
**Five Things God Uses to Grow Your Faith**  
**Part 5 - "Pivotal Circumstances"**  
**John 11**

It's always encouraging to hear people's faith stories. But most of them are the results of extreme times of fear and testing. While some of the ways God grows our faith are pretty tame (like games at amusement parks), God often uses pivotal circumstances that push us to the brink (like the extreme rides at amusement parks).

In the story of Lazarus (John 11), we see that:

God doesn't just \_\_\_\_\_ with our pivotal circumstances; He \_\_\_\_\_ them to grow our faith.

Three things to think about as you deal with your pivotal circumstances...

God does these things so that...

1. You'll r\_\_\_\_\_ where your \_\_\_\_\_ faith lies.

The point isn't to \_\_\_\_\_ you. It's to \_\_\_\_\_ you.

2. You'll r\_\_\_\_\_ with a \_\_\_\_\_ faith.

*"The only thing worse than disappointment with God is disappointment \_\_\_\_\_ God." --Phillip Yancey*

3. You'll r\_\_\_\_\_ something of God...

To ask for His p\_\_\_\_\_.

*(The key ideas and graphics for this series are being used by permission from a sermon series done by Andy Stanley at Northpoint Community Church in Atlanta, GA)*