

How to Give Your Testimony

Helping Your Friends Know Jesus

1 Peter 3:15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

When it's time to share Jesus, don't forget to _____.
The best story to tell is your _____.

Your testimony is where God's story and yours have a "Gospel _____."

Acts 22:1 "Brothers and fathers, listen now to my defense." 2 When they heard him speak to them in Aramaic, they became very quiet.

Then Paul said: 3 "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city. I

studied under Gamaliel and was thoroughly trained in the law of our ancestors. I was just as zealous for God as any of you are today. 4 I persecuted the followers of this Way to their death, arresting both men and women and throwing them into prison...

6 "About noon as I came near Damascus, suddenly a bright light from heaven flashed around me. 7 I fell to the ground and heard a voice say to me, 'Saul! Saul! Why do you persecute me?' 8 "'Who are you, Lord?' I asked. " 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting,' he replied. 9 My companions saw the light, but they did not understand the voice of him who was speaking to me. 10 "'What shall I do, Lord?' I asked.

John 9:24 A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God by telling the truth," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." 25 He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"



How to be ready to give your testimony:

1. _____ it out.

2. Make a clear _____.

Acts 26:9 "I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth. 10 And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the Lord's people in prison, and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them..."

Acts 26:19 "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. 20 First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and then to the Gentiles, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and demonstrate their repentance by their deeds."

What was life like before you were saved? How did you live? How did it feel? How did God prepare your heart for salvation? Did you resist? Were there people you met who influenced you? What changed your mind?

Don't be afraid of people knowing something _____ about you.

3. Focus on the _____.

How did God convict you of sin? "I realized I was a sinner/lost"

How did God correct your thinking? "I never understood that . . ." or "I found out that . . ." or "I realized I had been wrong about . . ."

How did you come to a crisis of faith? "I realized I had to turn from sin and believe in Jesus..."

4. Include _____.

Acts 26:15 "'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,' the Lord replied. 16 'Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. 17 I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them 18 to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

5. _____.

After it's written, put it _____ several times.

How to Share Your Testimony Workshop

Workshop: Preparing Your Testimony

Use this workshop format to reflect, write, and refine your personal testimony.

1. Make a Clear Contrast

Your testimony becomes remarkable when it highlights the contrast between your life before and after encountering Jesus.

Reflect and respond:

- **Before Jesus:** What was your life like before Christ? Describe your struggles, beliefs, or lifestyle.
 - *Example:* “I felt empty and tried to find meaning in success or relationships.”
 - *Your Answer:*

- **After Jesus:** How has your life changed since meeting Christ?
 - *Example:* “I’ve found peace and purpose in my relationship with Jesus.”
 - *Your Answer:*

2. Focus on the Moment of Salvation

The pivotal moment in your testimony is when God convicted you of sin and revealed His truth... and when you came to a moment of understanding and decision to follow Christ!

Reflect and respond:

- **Conviction:** How did God open your eyes to your need for Him?
 - *Example:* “I realized my good deeds couldn’t save me, and I needed forgiveness.”
 - *Your Answer:*

- **Understanding:** What truths about Jesus changed your thinking?
 - *Example:* “I learned that Jesus died for my sins and rose again to give me life.”
 - *Your Answer:*
- **Decision:** When did you decide to turn from sin and trust in Jesus?
 - *Example:* “I surrendered my life to Christ during a church service.”
 - *Your Answer:*

3. Practice Sharing It

Once your testimony is written, practice sharing it aloud. Keep it concise—a practiced version should take no more than five minutes. Use the space below to write a draft of your full testimony:

- **Write Your Full Testimony:**

4. Ask God for a chance to share it.

Start asking the Lord to open a door for you to share it. He will. He's so passionate about the Good News, he arranged Paul's life journey *just to get the Gospel in front of government officials and people in Rome!* I promise, God's more excited about it than you are!

Go ahead, pause right now and ask God for a chance to share it. In this space, write down 5 people that you might be able to share it with, and ask God to give you an open door:

Tips for Sharing Your Testimony

- **Make Jesus the Hero:** Your testimony isn't about how you saved yourself but about how Jesus saved you. Keep the focus on Him.
 - Reflect: How can you shift the focus to Jesus in your story? Write your thoughts below:
- **Avoid Overdramatizing:** Not every testimony is dramatic, and that's okay. Whether simple or dramatic, your story is powerful because it's true.
 - Reflect: How can you share your story authentically without exaggeration? Write your thoughts below:
- **Invite Interaction:** After sharing, ask questions like, "Does that make sense?" or "Do you have any questions?" This opens the door for deeper conversations.
 - Reflect: How can you create opportunities for others to engage with your testimony? Write your ideas below:
- **Offer a Response Opportunity:** Don't hesitate to extend an invitation. Say something like, "If you'd like to be right with God, I'd love to pray with you."

- Reflect: What would you say to invite someone to respond? Practice your invitation here:

Why Your Testimony Matters

Your story is a living example of the Gospel's power. When you share it, you're fulfilling the command of 1 Peter 3:15 to be ready to give an answer for the hope you have. Like Paul, the blind man, and countless others throughout history, your testimony can lead others to see the truth of Christ.

Take time today to write, refine, and practice your testimony. Use the prompts and exercises in this workshop to be fully prepared to share the story of God's work in your life—and trust Him to use it to impact others for His glory.

