

MY STORY

Writing & sharing your testimony



Your testimony is one of the most powerful messages you can share with somebody. As you are writing this, be thoughtful about your relationship with Jesus and how different your life has been since you have made the decision to follow Jesus. Remember, your testimony isn't your life story, it's how your life has changed because you met Jesus and decided to follow Him.

Read

- Spend some time reading Acts 26. This is Paul's testimony. Notice that his testimony is broken up into three parts: (1) his life before he met Jesus, (2) how he met Jesus, and (3) what his life has been like since choosing to follow Jesus.
- Read Matthew 28:18-20, which is called the Great Commission. These are some of the final words Jesus spoke before He left Earth and ascended into heaven. Pay close attention to what He is asking His followers to do.

Pray

"Jesus, thank you for coming into my life. I was a mess and lost, but you saved me. You give me strength when I'm weak, and comfort when my world is chaotic and scary. Please give me the words I need to share my testimony effectively. I pray that you would use my story to glorify you and bring others to know who you are. I love you Lord. I want to know you more. Thank you, Jesus, for loving me. Help me to choose to follow you each and every day. Amen."

Write

To start out, jot down some notes in your journal about the following sections.

Introduce yourself:

- Name
- Year in school or age
- City or school you are from

Attitudes and actions BEFORE you became a Christian:

- What kind of family did you grow up in? Do any of them know Christ?
- What was your life like before you knew Christ?
- What were you like before you knew Christ?

Why and how did you become a Christian?

- How did you realize you needed Jesus in your life?
- What made you decide to commit your life to Christ?
- How did you commit your life to Christ?
- If you gave your life to Christ at a young age and you don't feel like you had a big "aha" conversion moment...when did you feel like your faith became your own? When did you decide to follow Jesus in a more serious way than when you were young? In what ways are you grateful that Jesus has been a part of your life for a long time as opposed to a shorter time?

Changes in attitude and actions since you became a Christian:

- What was it like to realize that you are loved by Christ?
- What is different about you since you gave your life to Jesus?
- How is God a part of your daily life?

- How has your relationship with Christ changed the way you respond to certain situations?

List some significant moments in your walk with Jesus:

- Have you seen God work in your life in a certain situation?
- Have you seen God work in your family? In your close friends?
- Has God answered a prayer in your life?

Other potential testimony topics:

- What struggles do you have in your walk with Jesus?
- What is the most difficult part about being a Christian?
- Was there a difficult time in your life that led you closer to Jesus?
- Have you ever been made fun of for being a Christian?
- How are you reaching out to your non-believing friends?
- How do you grow daily in your walk with Jesus?
- Why is knowing Jesus the "Good News"?

Now it's time to write your testimony! We suggest typing it out (*MS Word or Google Docs*) using these three prompts to guide you:

1. **Before:** What was your life like before you met Jesus? What were you searching for? How did you act? How did you talk? Where did you find satisfaction?
2. **How:** How did your life change? What were the circumstances that led you to follow Jesus? What was happening in your life at the time? Were there problems in your life that influenced you to trust Jesus?
3. **After:** What does your life look like now? How have your thoughts, attitudes, emotions, and actions changed since you began following Jesus? What does your relationship with Jesus mean to you?

Share

God wants everyone to know Him and to choose to love and follow Him. Most of the time he does use His followers (Christians) to share with them what being a Christ-follower is all about. Look for opportunities with your friends, your family, your teammates, your neighbors, etc. to share your story of how having a relationship with Jesus has changed your life!

Stuck? Need help? Your Life Group leaders are here for you!

When you finish, send your testimony to HSM@saddleback.com. We would love to see how God has worked in your life!