

Sharing Your Testimony

A testimony is the story of how God saved you through faith in Jesus. Your testimony is a valuable tool in sharing the Gospel, and it can also be a great way to encourage the faith of other followers of Jesus. For this reason, it's important to learn how to articulate your testimony in a clear and simple way. It can be helpful to have a 15-20 minute version, that you can share in a Table group setting, or over a meal with someone. But it's also really helpful to have a 3-5 minute version that could be shared in casual conversation, when God gives you opportunities to talk about Jesus with a friend or acquaintance.

My life before Jesus

This is a brief sketch of your life before you became a Christian, along with a description of how you came to recognize your need to be saved from sin.

If you became a Christian in high school or later, this section will be fairly simple to articulate. If you gave your life to Jesus at a young age, this might be harder to explain, since you don't have much history "before Jesus." So it might be more helpful to think in terms of "without Jesus."

Even though you may not have committed any major sins before you became a Christian, the seeds of sin and selfishness were still there. And you probably know all too well what happens when you indulge those sinful desires. Those moments are a glimpse of what your life would be without Jesus.

My encounter with Jesus

This is where you describe the what, when, and how of your conversion.

1. What did you come to understand about Jesus that caused you to believe in him?

You should articulate some key truths of the Gospel here: Jesus is the Son of God who died for our sins, and physically rose from the grave and now reigns as Savior and King. God's grace poured out through Jesus saves anyone who gives their life to him, etc.). It would also be good to share at least one Scripture about these truths.

2. When did you come to believe this?

For some of us, it might be difficult to pinpoint an exact time or date, and that's okay. Sometimes, we come to faith slowly, a little at a time. But there is a line we cross at some point, from death to life, from unbelief to belief, from rebellion to commitment. And it's good to try to at least point to when you can tell that happened for you (One tip: the Bible tends to point to baptism as a key marker for this moment, so that might be the best place to start)

3. How did you come to believe this?

Who told you about Jesus? Where did you hear the Gospel explained? Was there a specific event or conversation that moved you toward this decision?

My life in Christ

How has Jesus made a difference in your life?

How is he redeeming those areas of sin that you mentioned in the "before Jesus" section?

Have you had moments since giving your life to Jesus when you've re-discovered his grace and power to save you from sin, selfishness, and idolatry?

You don't have to exaggerate the change, or pretend you're now perfect, but in Christ we are raised to "walk in newness of life." So there should be some kind of change you can point to.

Watch a video with more explanation & details!



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