



WRITING AND SHARING YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Preparing to share your story comes first in the heart, not in the organization of your presentation. You are to “*sanctify Christ as Lord in your heart*” (1 Peter 3:15). This is an all-the-time surrender and presentation of all that you are and have to God. In order to share your story, you must have a story to tell about your life in Christ.

Your personal testimony is unique. No one else on the planet can share about Jesus Christ the way you can. It’s your own firsthand account of what God has done in your life through Jesus Christ. Take the time to write a brief, prepared testimony. Some people that identify with your story will not relate to mine at all, and vice versa. It takes all of us being a light and voice of the Gospel in the darkness of this world. Tell our stories we must, and then let’s watch God work through us as He speaks to people at their point of need and reveals Himself to them. Be careful not to share at the person, but with them—with respect, care, and love.

Sit down with a pen and paper or at a computer and write out a paragraph for each item. Write out a long version and then shorten it. Carefully consider your words, and use language that people will understand. Here is an outline to help prompt your thoughts...

1. A brief personal introduction
2. My life before Jesus Christ
3. How I realized Jesus Christ was Lord and Savior of the world
4. How I trusted and received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior
5. What Jesus Christ has done in my life
6. What Jesus Christ is doing in my life now
7. A conclusion and/or appeal for the person to move toward God and respond to Christ

I would also recommend some things not to do. Don’t start off saying something like “*I became a Christian when I was...*” Don’t use words that an unbeliever may be totally unfamiliar with—words like *sanctified, justified, rapture, prophecy, sacrament, mass, confirmation, Eucharist, baptism, ordained, saved, born-again, and others*—you get the idea.

Write your story in a conversational tone, and as if you were sharing it with people from several different backgrounds—someone who attends church, someone of another religion, someone who is non-religious, and someone who is totally unfamiliar with the Bible and the message of the Gospel of Christ. The way you approach writing your story may be different with each one. It's a great exercise to help you be more effective in clearly conversing with someone about your faith.

Get a friend and practice saying your testimony with him/her. Encourage your friend to write his/her story too! Revise it, work on it, and make it as clear and effective as you can. Pray for each other in this process and encourage one another.

Then watch God use you as you share the story of your faith in Christ. You will have divine appointments and opportunities to share with others you already know. May God use you in wonderful ways as you let the words of your mouth tell of His salvation and righteousness.

I like what King David says in Psalm 71—*"I have constantly told others about the wonderful things you do...let me proclaim your power to this new generation, your mighty miracles to all who come after me"* (NLT).

Be passionate for God, have compassion for people, and pray for boldness as you share and penetrate into the hearts and minds of those with whom you are sharing. Your passion and love for God and for them will do much to gain and hold their attention. God will use your story to help non-believers see the Lord, and He will also use it to encourage and challenge believers.

Sincerely in Christ,

Lee Rushing
Backpack Evangelism®

P.S. – We would love to hear any stories how God used you in sharing your story and the Gospel with someone else.

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