

How to Write and Share Your Testimony

These ideas are from:

<http://www.navpress.com/magazines/archives/article.aspx?id=1.60.11>

<http://www.5clicks.com/index.php?page=1>

What is a testimony?

A testimony is a brief explanation of how Jesus saved you.

Are there examples of testimonies in Scripture?

Acts 26:2-29 – Paul before King Agrippa

John 4:39 – The woman at the well shared her testimony with the town

John 9:25 – The blind man before the Pharisees: "Once I was blind; now I see."

Why is a testimony important?

It is a natural way to share Jesus with someone you've just met, as you both share your stories.

It is your personal experience of Jesus, which gives it credibility.

It gives you a humble, personal way to share the gospel and glorify Jesus.

What would be good to aim at?

Focus on what Jesus did, not your past sinfulness.

Highlight Jesus' death and resurrection.

Mention what you did in the conversion process: repentance and faith in Jesus.

Focus on Jesus, not just God.

Really try to have it be less than 1 1/2 minutes (time yourself).

What would be good to avoid?

Don't have it be too long.

Don't be critical of any church, organization, or individual.

Avoid exaggerations of any sort; be realistic.

Don't sound preachy.

Don't use vague religious terms without explaining them (changed, saved, sin, convicted, etc.).

How do I write my testimony?

Pray and ask Jesus to give you wisdom.

Start with an attention-getting sentence of incident.

Before I met Jesus, my life was going really well – but I was empty inside.

Be specific: details are more interesting than generalities.

A helpful outline might be:

Attention-getting sentence.

Before I met Jesus ...

How I met Jesus ...

What resulted from meeting Jesus ...

After you've written it, look at the above "aims" and "avoids" to see if you forgot any.

How do I share my testimony?

We will not all share our testimonies with the group; only those who want to. The rest can give feedback.

Go over it again and again until you know it.

Pray for opportunities to share your testimony.

If you are humble and loving, you can share your testimony with almost anyone.