

How to:

Share Your Testimony

"...Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him."
Luke 8:38-39 ESV

Why do we share our testimony?

We are called to be witnesses (Acts 1:8) and ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:17) for Christ, always being prepared to make a defense for the hope in us (1 Peter 3:15).

If sharing your testimony sounds intimidating, consider it in light of Luke 8. After Jesus healed a demon-possessed man, he told him to "declare how much God has done for you" (Luke 8:38 ESV). Ultimately, when you share your testimony, you simply explain what God has done for you in Christ.

So, if Jesus has truly saved us from eternal separation and punishment from God and wants us to be witnesses, we should, like the man in Luke 8, proclaim how much Jesus has done for us!

How do we share our testimony?

You'll want to talk about three main things:

- 1) What life was like before you knew Christ,
- 2) How you came to hear the Gospel and repent and believe in Jesus,
- 3) How God has changed your life since then (perhaps why you are here today)

If you don't have a story like this and want to know Jesus, reach out to a pastor, small group leader, or trusted friend about how you can have life in Jesus.

You can make this as short as 15 seconds or an hour long if you have enough time! Often, 3 minutes is enough to give an overview of your testimony. It is also helpful to briefly share what the Gospel is when you talk about how you came to hear the Gospel.

Access videos and resources online here:



or at crosspointclemson.org/gospel-tools



What is an example of a testimony?

I was blessed to have been raised by loving and devoted parents who tucked my first bible into my Easter basket and took me to church on Sundays. I had a sense that God was real but didn't think it was possible to ever understand the Bible or actually have a personal relationship with Him. I figured I would just be as "good a person" as I could be.

Within a short time after heading to college, I proved to not be so good at being a good person. My sins and their consequences sent me into a spiral of guilt and continual destruction. A few years later, I was walking with a friend and sharing my guilt and despair with her, because I knew she shared the same struggles. She looked at me and said, since we've done these things, fully knowing that they are wrong, don't you think we deserve to go to hell? I thought I was going to be sick b/c I knew she was right. I didn't know how I could go on living with that.

In God's mercy, He showed me the way to a new and eternal life. He quickly placed me in a church where he opened my ears to hear the good news....that God loves me so much he sent his own son, who unlike me, lived a perfect life and gave his life for His glory and my salvation. I was overwhelmed with gratitude as I realized that I would undeservedly stand before him blameless one day. This compelled me to turn away from my former life and to devote the life he gave me to His glory.

What if I don't have a lot of time to share my testimony?

Only have a few moments to share your testimony? You can use the 15-Second Testimony template below to condense your testimony into a few short statements. As mentioned before, you need to share about three main things: what life was like before Christ, how you came to hear the Gospel and repent and believe in Jesus, and how God has changed your life since then.

15 Second Testimony

Before Christ....

How I met Christ...

Now...

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Here's an example based on the longer testimony example above: "There was a time in my life when all I felt was guilt and despair. But then I learned about Jesus and how he gave his life so that I can be blameless before him one day. Now, my life is devoted to him out of gratitude rather than guilt, and I am freed from the cycle of destruction I used to have in my life."