



Your Story—Personal Testimony

My Life Before Christ

Identify one key principle, or problem (e.g., lack of peace, lack of purpose, covetousness, pride, etc.), that characterized your life before you became a Christian. Illustrate how this principle, or problem, affected your life. What was the result of this principle in your day-to-day activities (e.g., emotions, attitude, etc.)?

How I Came To Christ

Use details which show your personal transaction with God, and avoid confusing statements like: "I went forward," or "I marked the card," lest your listener thinks that is the answer. Instead, use: "When So-and-So asked if I had received Christ personally, I knew I had not and this was the time I must trust Him."

My Life After I Trusted Christ

Here, you want to illustrate how Christ dealt with the principle, or problem, you discussed above. Mention the most striking change in your life (e.g., desires, actions, hunger for God's Word, peace, purpose, etc.) Show the effects of becoming a "new creature," but be realistic. Do not imply that Christ eliminates all the problems of life, rather that He enables you to live them out with peace and confidence.

Helpful hints for preparing your personal testimony:

- 1.** Speak to God first and ask Him to speak through you. Ask Him to give you wisdom and guidance as you write.
- 2.** Avoid...
 - using negative statements about people or organizations
 - mentioning denominations
 - preaching at people
 - using stereotypes
 - using words that are meaningless to non-Christians ("Christianese")
- 3.** It is important that Christ be lifted up as the only way to eternal life (John 14:6). Make sure this point is clearly made in your testimony.



His Story – Sharing the Gospel

The Romans Road

Show the individual what the Bible says about the plan of salvation. This illustration will make clear what God's word says about his or her condition.

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

This verse clears up any misinformed notions that some people do not need help.
It also points out that the standard is God's glory, not our relative position compared to other people.

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

This verse explains the consequences of our sin.
It points out what God has done.
It emphasizes the centrality of Christ.

Romans 10:9 "That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

This verse shows the need for a personal response.
It affirms that the Gospel is centered in the person and identity of Jesus.
It proclaims the uniqueness of the historical event of the resurrection.
It gives assurance of salvation.

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