

# How to write out your testimony

## Keep it Simple...stick to three points

This is very effective in communicating your personal testimony. Sticking to a simple outline helps focus on who you were **before** you trusted Christ, **how** you surrendered to him, and the difference **since** you've been walking with him.

- **Before:**

Simply tell what your life was like before you gave it to Christ. What were you searching for before coming to know Christ? What were/was the key problem, emotion, situation or attitude you were dealing with? What motivated you? What were your actions? How did you try to satisfy your inner needs? (i.e. loneliness, fear of death, insecurity. You may have tried something like work, money, drugs, relationships, sports, sex.)

- **How:**

How did you decide to give your life to Christ? What were the events and circumstances that caused you to consider Christ as the solution to your searching. Take time to identify the steps that brought you to the point of trusting Christ. Where were you? What was happening at the time? What people or problems influenced your decision?

- **Since:**

How has your life in Christ made a difference? How has his forgiveness impacted you? How have your thoughts, attitudes and emotions changed? Share how Christ is meeting your needs and what a relationship with him means to you now.

## Important Things to Remember

- **Stick to the point.** Your conversion and new life in Christ should be the main points.
- **Be specific.** Include events, genuine feelings and personal insights that clarify your main point. This makes your testimony tangible - something others can relate to.
- **Be current.** Tell what is happening in your life with God now, today.
- **Be honest.** Don't exaggerate or dramatize your life for effect. The simple truth of what God has done in your life is all the [Holy Spirit](#) needs to convict others of their sin and convince them of his love and grace.

**Brainstorming...**

# How to write out your testimony cont...

## Some Words You May Want to Explain...

It's easy to get caught up using "Christianese" phrases. However, many of them are "foreign" or "churchy" words that can confuse or even alienate listeners unintentionally. Be real. Use everyday language. If you choose to use words commonly said in church settings, take time to explain what they mean. It will help everyone listening to understand and buy into what you are trying to communicate.

Here are some examples:

### **"born again."** alternatives:

- spiritual birth
- spiritual renewal
- to come alive spiritually
- given a new life

### **"saved"** alternatives:

- rescued
- delivered
- found hope for my life

### **"lost"** alternatives:

- heading in the wrong direction
- separated from God
- had no hope

### **"Gospel"** alternatives:

- God's message to humankind
- the good news about Christ's purpose on earth

### **"sin"** alternatives:

- rejecting God
- missing the mark
- falling away from the right path
- a crime against God's law
- disobedience to God

### **"repent"** alternatives:

- admit a wrong
- change one's mind, heart or attitude
- make a decision to turn away
- turn around
- a 180 degree turn from what you were doing

Lord willing this gives you a kick-start in prepping your testimony. Have a great time reflecting on where you've come from and where you are heading. Most of all, enjoy being used by God to offer everyone who listens the chance to find the same amazing grace you have. Give'm heaven!