

PREPARING YOUR STORY

Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself.

(1 John 5:10a, ESV)

The prompts in this worksheet will provide a solid framework for building your story. As you work through the questions, try to think of specific examples and details that relate to each one. Be sure to pray asking the Lord to guide you as you write your "testimony." If you run out of room, feel free to grab extra paper or type your story out on the computer.

YOUR OPENING

Is there a theme to gain attention and frame your story?

WHAT WAS YOUR LIFE LIKE BEFORE JESUS?

What were your attitudes, needs, and problems?

What did your life revolve around? What was most important to you?

Where did you look for security, peace of mind, and happiness?

HOW DID YOU COME TO TRUST JESUS?

When did you first hear the Gospel?

When were you first exposed to a believer who lived out an authentic faith?

What were your initial reactions to Jesus Christ?

When and why did you begin to feel positively about Christianity?

What was the turning point in your attitude?

What feelings did you struggle with right before your decision?

WHAT HAS YOUR LIFE BEEN LIKE AFTER YOU TRUSTED JESUS?

What changes did you see in your life? In your attitudes? In your actions?

How long did it take before you noticed any changes?

What does Jesus Christ mean to you now?

YOUR CLOSING

How can you connect back to your key theme to summarize and close your story?

REMINDERS

Be sure to spend time in prayer and reflection before finalizing your story. Be aware of your audience and consider the wording you use. Refrain from naming specific people or organizations when discussing negative situations. Avoid religious terms that may confuse people or require further explanation. For example, instead of "born again," consider "given a new lease on life" or "my eyes were opened." Instead of "saved," consider "delivered from" or "found hope." Instead of "lost," consider "headed in the wrong direction" or "focused on the wrong things." Instead of "repent," consider "decided to turn from" or "changed my mind, heart, or attitude." Remember, that as a person grows in their own journey, they'll have the opportunity to learn what those terms mean. There are no bonus points for using those words when you initially share with someone.

