

PREPARING YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Always be ready to give your personal testimony – to testify to God’s amazing grace in your life.

Do Not be embarrassed or ashamed of your testimony. God wants to use you. Share what you have seen, heard, experienced, and tasted – that the Lord, indeed, is Good!

Use the following guidelines to help you formulate your thoughts. Write out your testimony. Practice reciting it. Be prepared to present it to family, friends, co-workers, or anyone else God may bring across your path as you go through your daily routines.

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY

You can use a carefully prepared testimony, presented with the power of the Holy Spirit, in nearly every witnessing situation. It should be your desire and intent to present Christ in such a clear, attractive, yet simple, way that those who hear will not only want to know Him like you do, but they will also know “how” to know Him intimately.

SOME CONSIDERATIONS

DO:

- Prepare, Prepare, Prepare (Proverbs 16:1-3; Colossians 4:2-6)
- Ask the Lord to give you wisdom and to guide you as you write (James 1:5-6)
- Follow this simple three-point outline:
 - Describe your Life before knowing Christ
 - Briefly explain How you came to know Christ
 - Give details about how your Life has changed since you received Christ
- Cover all important points, regardless of when you came to faith in Christ (as an adolescent or an adult).
- Begin with an interesting, attention-getting illustration/story and close with giving thanks and glory to God
- Always reinforce what you are saying with Scripture, for the Power is in the Word (Romans 1:16)
- Edit carefully; Re-write and Memorize it!

DO NOT:

- Use Christian jargon. Words and phrases, such as “I found Jesus” or “I was totally depraved,” might be common to us, but they are often misunderstood by non-believers.
- Be too wordy or indirect in what you say, put the truth of 1 Peter 3:15 into practice; understand what it means to give an answer for the hope you have, yet do it with gentleness and respect
- Give the impression that the Christian life is a “bed of roses.”

CONCLUDING CONSIDERATIONS

DO:

- Share your testimony with loving enthusiasm as you are filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)
- Speak clearly in a natural, relaxed tone; remember when Jesus spoke, crowds ‘and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth (Luke 4:22)
- Speak with authority and boldness; do not be intimidated (Matthew 7:28-29; Acts 4:12-13)
- Avoid distracting behaviors as you speak (like jingling coins in your pocket, saying “Uh,” etc.)
- Avoid arguing or pressuring listeners to respond positively to your testimony; men are ‘born of the Spirit,” not through persuasiveness or logic of men (see 1 Corinthians 2:4,5)
- Smile while you speak; Let the ‘Joy of the Lord” be your strength (see Nehemiah 8:10) Pray that the Lord helps you be radiant with your countenance and your words
- Memorize your testimony and practice giving it, with other believers or while looking in a mirror, until it becomes natural for you