



PREPARING YOUR **PERSONAL TESTIMONY**

"The Basics" Series

Preparing Your Personal Testimony

Your testimony is one of your most valuable tools when sharing the Gospel. It is the story of how you came into a personal relation with Christ and no one can refute it. This simple tool explores why we should use our personal testimony in evangelism and then it gives you a step by step guide to developing your personal testimony. If you take the time to use this tool and develop a 3–5 minute testimony, it will become one of your most effective evangelism methods.

1. What is a personal testimony?

Your testimony is the retelling of when and how you came into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

2. Why should we use a personal testimony?

1. In Acts chapter 26, how did Paul use his testimony?
2. It is your most valuable evangelistic tool; no one can deny a changed life.
3. It is easy to use in a social setting.
4. People are interested in hearing about other people.

3. How to develop your personal testimony

1. It should be three to five minutes and memorized

2. Make it personal, not preachy; use “I” and “me,” not “you” and “we.”

3. The general outline of a testimony:
 - I. Before
 - a) A short sketch of your life before you became a Christian
 - b) Include how you became aware of your need for Christ

 - II. How
 - a) How, specifically, you became a Christian
 - b) Communicate the gospel clearly and briefly, including:
 1. The fact of sin
 2. The penalty of sin
 3. Jesus’ payment for that sin
 4. The requirement to repent and trust Jesus personally
 5. The steps you took to invite Christ into your life
(could have been a prayer of commitment)

 - III. After
 - a) How did Jesus change your life?
 - b) Always relate back to how Christ changed the areas you struggled with before conversion

 - IV. Clearly write out your personal testimony using the outline provided.

 - V. Condense your testimony to an outline and memorize it.