

HOW TO WRITE AND SHARE YOUR TESTIMONY:

A Step-by-Step Guide for Any Christian

Writing your testimony comes down to three simple parts: what your life was like before Jesus, how you met Him, and how your life is different now. At Forge, we call your testimony your God-Story: a time when God showed up for you. Here's why writing it matters: when you put your God-Story on paper, it stops being a vague memory and becomes something clear, specific, and ready to share.

YOUR TESTIMONY IS YOUR GOD-STORY

A God-Story doesn't have to be the story of how you first met Jesus, though it can be. It can be any time God simply showed up: a prayer He answered, peace He brought in the middle of anxiety, a relationship He reconciled, a need He met when you had no idea how the bills would get paid. A good story is approachable, real, and authentic, and it meets people at a heart level in a way that an argument never will. That's what makes your testimony one of the simplest and most effective methods of sharing the Gospel.

THE BEFORE/HOW/AFTER FRAMEWORK

- 1 Before: Your Life Before Jesus**
Start with what your life was like before God showed up—or before this particular season of faith. Maybe you were anxious or depressed. Maybe you hit a stretch where you wondered how you'd make ends meet. Name the real struggle honestly. This is the part people relate to most.
- 2 How: How You Met Jesus**
Next, tell how God broke through. What happened? Maybe it was a sermon, a Sunday school class, or a coffee meeting where a friend spoke loving truth into your life. Maybe you were alone in a room, praying. Whatever it was, describe the actual moment, person, or season God used. Specifics make a story more tangible.
- 3 After: How Your Life Is Different Now**
Finally, share what changed. Maybe you went from fearful to courageous, from despair to hope, from anxiety to peace. Maybe God provided when you had no idea how the need would be met. Don't just say things got better—say *what* got better, and what God is still doing in you today.

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR TESTIMONY

- **Keep it to three minutes or under.** You can always share more if someone asks. Aim to tell your God-Story in one or two minutes.
- **Make it specific.** A desperate moment, a particular song, a sentence a friend said—concrete details are what make a story stick.
- **Avoid Christianese.** Words like *redeemed*, *saved*, or *washed in the blood* may mean nothing to someone outside the church. Use everyday language.
- **Lead with vulnerability.** Honesty about your "before" earns trust faster than anything polished. Don't be afraid to name the hard part.
- **Aim for one Gospel-connection point at the end.** Plan a simple sentence that connects what God did for you to what He offers everyone.

A SHORT SAMPLE TESTIMONY

Here is one of Forge Speaker Adrian Despres' own God-Stories, told in about a minute:

Growing up, I was a kid full of fear, anxiety, and worry—and on top of it all, full of pride. I was a mess, trying to live my own life my own way. I figured if I just did all the right things, I'd end up satisfied. I didn't. I ended up as lonely as I had ever been—so alone that I started considering ending it all.

One day, in the middle of that loneliness, I thought, *Maybe I should finally do what all those preachers kept telling me to do.* So I went into the closet of my childhood bedroom, sat down on the floor, shut the door, and prayed: *Jesus, will You please show up? Will You intervene?*

And He did. He really did. My loneliness turned to satisfaction. My depression was replaced with joy. I had been so fearful I could barely say hello to the person next to me at lunch—and Jesus turned me into someone who can't stop telling people about Him. That's the difference Jesus made in my life.

BRIDGING TO THE GOSPEL

Right after you share your God-Story, connect it to the Good News that is available to the person you are sharing with. It can be this simple: "This was possible in my life because Jesus died on the cross for our sins, which separated us from God. And He rose from the dead, which means He's alive today and wants a relationship with us. He loves us that much."

Then ask a question—something like, "Would you like this in your life too?" A question moves the conversation from you to them and invites them to consider their own story. If someone is ready to give their life to Christ, you can pray with them right there; [Romans 10:9](#) is a helpful guide for that moment: "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

ADAPTING YOUR TESTIMONY FOR DIFFERENT AUDIENCES

- **A skeptical friend.** Lead with your real struggle. Don't preach—just tell what happened to you, stay conversational, and leave room for their questions.
- **A fellow Christian.** Here you can use shared language freely. Focus on encouragement and what God is still doing.
- **A child.** Keep it simple and concrete: one feeling before, one moment, one change. Short sentences.
- **A longer setting versus an elevator pitch.** For a small group, you can add detail or even a second mini God-Story. For an elevator-length version, cut to one *before*, one *how*, one *after*, and your question. Aim for under 3 minutes.

WHAT NOT TO DO

- ✗ **Don't make yourself the hero.** The point of your testimony is what God did.
- ✗ **Go easy on the Christianese.** Translate it into plain words.
- ✗ **Don't glorify the sin.** You can be honest about your past without dwelling on it or making it sound appealing. A quick, truthful sketch is enough.
- ✗ **Don't trail off.** End somewhere specific—what changed, and a simple question—rather than a vague "and now everything is better."

BIBLE VERSES TO ANCHOR YOUR TESTIMONY

- **Mark 5:19-20:** Jesus tells a changed man to go and report "how much the Lord has done for you."
- **Psalms 107:2:** "Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim that He has redeemed them from the power of the foe."
- **1 Peter 3:15:** "Be ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you."
- **Revelation 12:11:** believers overcome "by the word of their testimony."
- **Acts 4:20:** "we are unable to stop speaking about what we have seen and heard."

WHEN ORDINARY BELIEVERS START SHARING WHAT JESUS HAS DONE FOR THEM, MOVEMENTS MULTIPLY—ONE CONVERSATION, ONE LIFE AT A TIME.

Ready to put yours on paper? Download the free **God-Story Worksheet**, a step-by-step printable to help you write and share your testimony confidently. [Get the worksheet](#)