

The POWER of testimony

A biblical case for using your story to witness to others

Sharing your story (testimony) of what Jesus has done in your life is a **POWERFUL** way to witness to others. **First**, and most importantly it is BIBLICAL. There are many examples in the Scriptures of people simply and effectively sharing what Jesus has done for them. **Second**, it is relational. Humans are relational beings, and everybody loves stories. Some part of your story will be able to connect and relate to what others have or are experiencing. **Third**, you can almost immediately begin sharing your story. You already know it because you've lived it.

While some coaching can help pull it out of you, you don't have to have lots of scripture memorized to share. **Fourth**, people can argue about theology, but it is hard to argue with the power of a changed life. Changed lives give people hope and inspire others that they too can change.

Examples in the Bible:

Paul - when sharing with *Jews*, Paul would use OT scriptures to point to Christ. When sharing with *Gentiles* he would use other means, especially his testimony. The well known one is Acts 17 at the Areopagus where he uses a statue in the town that says, "to an unknown God" and tells them how they can know him. But did you know Scripture records Paul using his testimony 3 times? Check out Acts 22, 24, & 26 where Paul **tells his own story** of how he was a well educated Jew who persecuted Christians thinking they were dangerously wrong, until God blinded him, then opened his eyes to the truth, and now he preaches the message he used to persecute. He shares this with gentile leaders (King Agrippa and his wife Bernice, a roman tribunal, Felix & Festus) who wouldn't be familiar or as familiar with the Scriptures. He also shares his testimony with the Philippians (Phil 3).

→ Question to consider: do we live around people that mostly know the Scriptures or mostly do not?

Demoniac - In Mark 5, Jesus heals the man with the Legion of demons.

- Man wants to follow him, but Jesus tells him to instead go and share his story of what God has done for him and how much mercy he has had on him.
- He tells him to share with his “oikos” (often translated household, but means someones relational network (friends, family, etc). Man goes above and beyond, sharing throughout the Decapolis (meaning 10 cities).

Samaritan Woman - In John 4 Jesus meets a woman who is currently living in adultery and has had 5 husbands. Not a shining example of morality. As THE prophet (Deut 18:18) who is to come, Jesus supernaturally knows this and doesn't condemn her. She is amazed, runs back to her Samaritan village and shares her testimony. It says many people believe BECAUSE of this woman's testimony (4:39)! **How much training did she need?**

Blind man - In John 9, Jesus heals a man blind from birth. While his parents are afraid to acknowledge Jesus, the man himself unabashedly and simply tells him what Jesus did for him despite the religious leaders trying to put pressure on him.

[A few additional Scriptures supporting the importance of testimonies:](#)

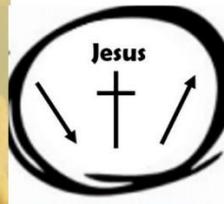
- And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. (**Rev. 12:11**)
- My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of **your deeds of salvation all the day**, for their number is past my knowledge. With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come; I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone. O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come. **Psalm 71:15-18**
- Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul. **Psalm 66:16**
- So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven **Matthew 10:32**

EASY WAY TO SHARE YOUR TESTIMONY

**3 Adjectives
Describing
Your Life
Before Christ**

**How Did You
Encountered
Christ's
Gospel?**

**3 Adjectives
Describing
Your Life
Since You
Encountered
Christ**



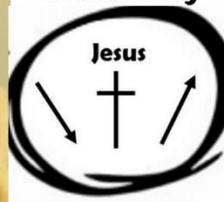
**Start By asking: Can I share a quick story with you?
End your Testimony by asking: Has anything like this has
ever happened in your life?**

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

**Practice,
Practice,
Practice**

**Practice your
testimony as
often as you can
with friends &
family**

**Make Sure
You Share
The Gospel in
Your
Testimony**



**When starting
to practice keep
your testimony
under a minute.
This will help
you have a
structure when
you do have
more time.**

**Your testimony is important no matter how radical the
transformation was. You may also use other instances in your
life where Christ's saving grace has transformed you.**