

1. Realize the Power of Your Testimony

• Read Revelations 12:11 – "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."

 Read John 4:39 - "Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony..."

2. Study an Example of a Testimony from the Bible

Read Acts 26:4-23

- <u>Before</u>: Paul gives an outline of the situation before he encountered Jesus (26:4-11).
- <u>During</u>: Paul shares a narrative of the encounter with Christ Himself (26:12-18).
- <u>After</u>: Paul describes how life has been different since meeting Jesus (26:19-23).

Acts 26:4-11 (Before)

4 "My manner of life from my youth, spent from the beginning among my own nation and in Jerusalem, is known by all the Jews. 5 They have known for a long time, if they are willing to testify, that according to the strictest party of our religion I have lived as a Pharisee. 6 And now I stand here on trial because of my hope in the promise made by God to our fathers, 7 to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly worship night and day. And for this hope I am accused by Jews, O king! 8 Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead? 9 "I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things in opposing the name of Jesus of Nazareth. 10 And I did so in Jerusalem. I not only locked up many of the saints in prison after receiving authority from the chief priests, but when they were put to death I cast my vote against them. 11 And I punished them often in all the synagogues and tried to make them blaspheme, and in raging fury against them I persecuted them even to foreign cities.

Acts 26:12-18 (During)

12 "In this connection I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. 13 At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. 14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language,[a] 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' 15 And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. 16 But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, 17 delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you 18 to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

Acts 26:19-23 (After)

19 "Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance. 21 For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. 22 To this day I have had the help that comes from God, and so I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass: 23 that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles."

3. Start with a Simple 3-Point Outline

- Before (less than 1 minute): Simply tell what your life was like before you met Jesus.
- <u>During (1-2 minutes)</u>: Simply tell the events and circumstances that caused you to consider Christ as the solution to your searching.
- After (1 minute): Simply tell how your life has changed after meeting Christ.
- Ask: "Has something like this ever happen to you?

4. Important Tips to Remember

- Stick to the Point.
- Be Specific.
- Be Current.
- Be Honest.
- Be Joyful.

5. Things to Avoid

- Over-spiritualized conversation
- Terms that may confuse
- Don't only talk about a decision made in the past. Share how Christ impacts your daily life.
- Don't embellish. If you don't remember the exact moment you came to faith, simply talk about a time when you may have come to Christ.

6. Spend Time in Thought & Preparation

Before

During

After

Example: Eugene's 3-minute Testimony

• Before Christ:

"This may be a crazy question, but I was wondering if you ever think much about death - especially during this pandemic? (Response: "Yes, no, not much.\") Man, I used to think about death a lot. Thinking about it as a young person was stressful and scary ever since my best friend was killed in a car accident. I was pretty devastated. It just seemed so senseless and hopeless especially when I knew I was going to die some day too!"

• <u>During (conversion):</u>

"Anyway, I was in a pretty dark place when my aunt noticed, took me aside and introduced me to Someone that could help me face death in a way I never thought of. His name is Jesus and He is a game changer. After my aunt told me about Jesus, I started believing who He was and what He did for me."

Example: Eugene's 3-minute Testimony

• After Christ:

"And over time, this darkness I had faded away. All that anxiety, stress and fear about death eventually went away. I'm actually happy now. We all have to face death some day, right? But I honestly can say I have peace about it now."

• <u>Ask:</u>

"Do you have peace about facing death? If not, I was wondering if I could take a few moments to share with you some Good News. Would that be ok?"

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Before

During

After