



Testimonies

We overcome by the word of our testimony.

They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony. *Revelations 12:11a.*

Why should we share our Testimony?

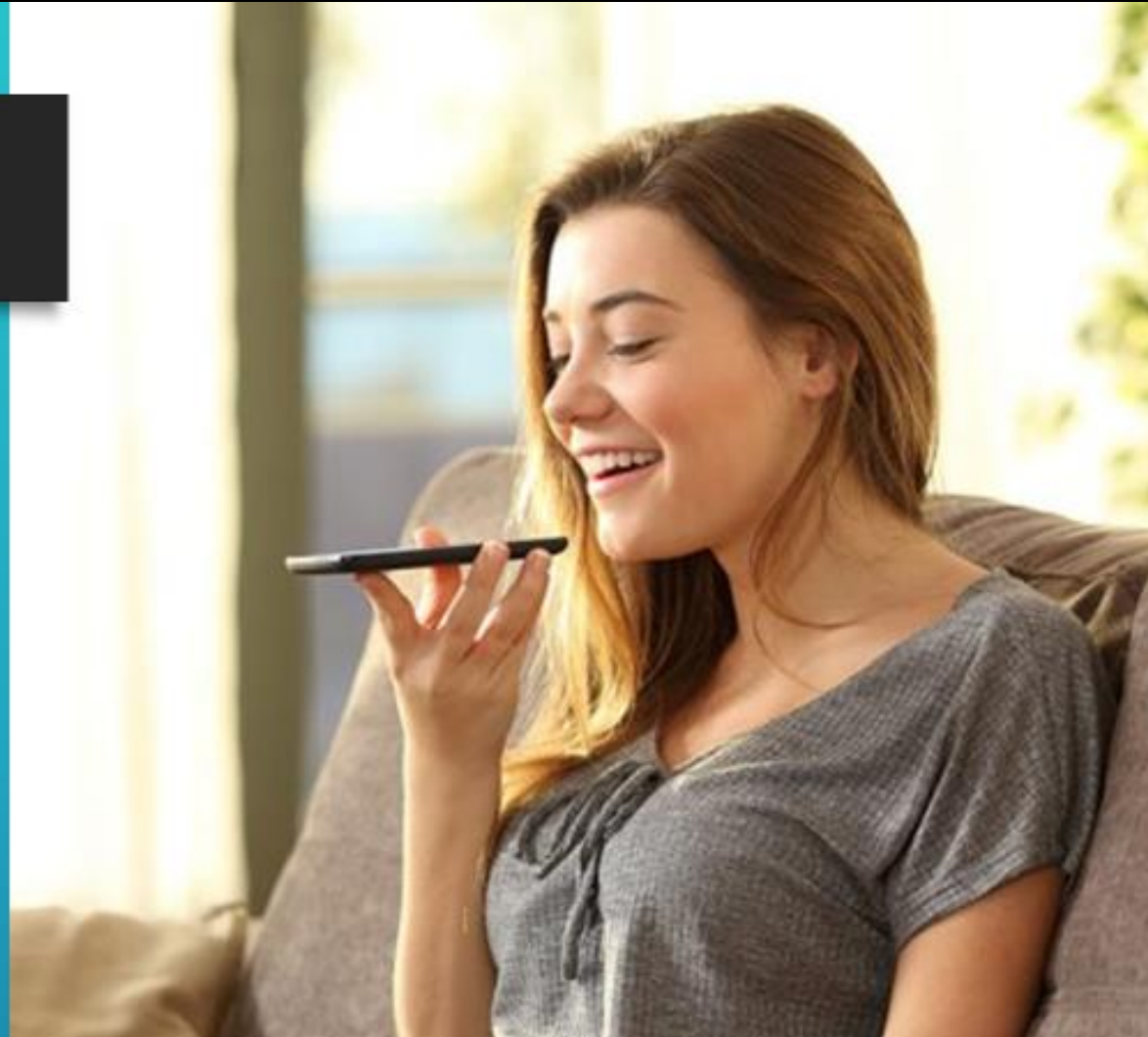
- Why do we exist? To bring Glory to God. What is Glory? Glory is high renown or honor by His magnificence.
- When we share our testimony, we offer Hope that can only be found in Jesus. Which of your family members, friends or neighbors have yet to experience the Hope God offers?
- The author of 1 John says, "***We write this to make our joy complete***" (1John1:4). Not only did talking about Jesus bring Him joy, but we can help others to be part of the community that knows and experiences God's love and grace. Whom do you want to experience this joy?



Be Ready!

Your Story is His Story

- Your Story – regardless of how “spectacular” or “ordinary” you think it is – is a story about God character.
- Whether you are in front of a family member or having a conversation over the phone, the Bible calls us to *“always be ready” to explain our hope in Christ with gentleness and respect*. (1 Peter 3:15-16). Have you share your story of what Jesus has done in your life?



Writing Your Personal Testimony

Realize


Realize Preparation and Practice is needed: We like to think that because it's our story, we don't have to do anything to be ready to tell it. After all, we were there when it happened, and we are living it now. Yet we can get nervous or forget things. This is why Preparation and Practice is so valuable.

Study

Study an example of a testimony from the Bible: Read Acts 26 - Paul gives his testimony.

Spend

Spend time in thought preparation: Think about the time before you give your life to Jesus. What was going on in your life leading up to your conversion? What problems or needs were you facing at the time? How did your life change after that?



Your Life before Jesus

- What did your life revolve around (relationships, work, etc.) that God used to help bring you to Him? Briefly illustrate how that influenced your life.
- Paint a picture of what your life was like before you came to Jesus. Don't dwell too much on, or brag about, past sin struggles. Share only the details that relate to you, just enough to show your need for Christ.

How I came to Jesus

- When was the first time I heard about Jesus? What were my initial reactions?
- When and why my perspective of Jesus begin to change?
- Why did I finally decide to give Him complete control of my life?

My Life after coming to Jesus

- How is my life different now? List some specific changes in your character, attitude and perspective on life.
- What motivates me now? What do I live for?
- Even though my life still isn't perfect, how does knowing Jesus help me deal with that fact?



Writing a Testimony

Start

Start with a simple 3-point outline: A three-point approach is very effective in communicating your personal testimony. The outline focuses on before you trusted Jesus, how you surrendered to him, and the difference since you've been walking with him.

Do's

Be precise: Your conversion and new life in Christ should be the main point.

Be specific: Include events, feelings and personal insight that clarify your main point. This makes your testimony something others can relate to.

Be current: Tell what is happening in your life with God now, today.

Don't

Don't exaggerate: Don't dramatize your life for effect. The simple truth of what God has done in your life is all the Holy Spirit needs to convict others of their sin and convince them of God's love and grace.

Don't use "churchy" words: Avoid using 'born again' or 'saved', 'lost' or 'gospel'.

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Sometimes, a single phrase of TESTIMONY
can set events in motion that affect
someone's life for ETERNITY.

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Dieter F. Uchtdorf