

Sharing Your Story

Your story has amazing impact on others. It lets them know that what you are talking about is real to you and impacts your life. You are not just sharing some ideas you've heard but speaking from your experience. Because it is your story it cannot be argued with or easily dismissed. The goal is to be able to know your story well enough that you can share it clearly and quickly. We will use the simple model Paul used in Acts 26.

Helpful Hints:

Write the way you speak-this is your story.

- Choose a theme and carry it throughout your story.
- Don't be overly negative or positive. Be truthful.
- Don't criticize or name any church, denomination, organization, etc.
- Time limit should be 3 minutes. Practice it over and over until it becomes natural.

My Life Before I Accepted Christ

Acts 26:1-11

1. What was my life like that will relate most to the non-Christian?
2. What did my life revolve around? From what did I get my happiness or security? (Remember, the non-Christian is relying on something external to give him happiness and meaning.)
3. How did those things let me down?

(Many people who came to Jesus at an early age do not think their story is exciting enough. If that is your story you can just mention this and focus more on how you came to Christ and what has happened since.)

Write down the first part of your story. If you get stuck just answer these questions.

How I Received Christ:

Acts 26:12-18

1. When was the first time I heard the gospel?
2. What were my initial reactions?
3. When did my attitude begin to change? Why?
4. What were the doubts or struggles that went through my mind just before I accepted Christ?
5. Why did I accept Christ?

6. What did I do to accept Christ (Here you can give a simple gospel explanation: I realized I was lost with Jesus, that He died for my sin and so I prayed and committed my life to Christ.)

Write down the second part of your story. If you get stuck just answer these questions.

After I Accepted Christ:

Acts 26:19-29

1. What are the **specific** changes Christ has made in my life? Don't just share "My life is so much better now." How is it better? What specifically has Jesus helped you with?
2. Are there any illustrations that would be helpful?
3. Why am I motivated to live differently?

Write down the third part of your story. If you get stuck just answer these questions.