

# TESTIMONY WORKSHEET

Life as a non-Christian: Attitude, behavior, etc:

Actual conversion – How God brought me from darkness to light:  
(Use Scripture to testify about the saving message of the Gospel)

Current state: With Christ as Lord and Savior, how is my life different:  
(What changes occurred; Trusting and obeying my new Master, etc.)

Example: Paul giving his personal conversion testimony to King Agrippa (Acts 26:4-23):

- *His life before faith in Christ* (vs. 4-11): Paul told how he was raised very religiously, even as a Jewish leader. This led to an “anti-church” and “anti-Jesus” campaign. Zealously, he went around destroying the church (which is one of the reasons he called himself the “worst of sinners” - I Tim. 1:16).
- *His day of salvation* (vs. 12-18): Paul then proceeded to share what actually happened the day of his conversion. He talked about how he was humbled and confronted by the Messiah – the Christ, who drove him to his knees, where he eventually sought faith and repentance.
- *His current state* (vs. 19-23): Paul concluded his testimony by sharing how he was now obedient to his new Master, Jesus Christ, preaching that people should “repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.” Ultimately, Paul seized the opportunity to turn his personal testimony into an evangelistic message that was intended for Agrippa himself, as well as many others who were present in the courtroom! (This serves as an example of how and why we should share our personal testimonies of God’s amazing grace in our lives to lost people.)

## PREPARING YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY

All team members must be prepared to give their personal testimony – To testify of God’s amazing grace in your life. You will have many opportunities to share with believers and unbelievers throughout the trip.

Do not be embarrassed or ashamed of your testimony. God wants to use you. Share with people what you have seen, heard, experienced, and tasted in the Lord – indeed that He is Good!

Use the following guidelines to help you formulate your thoughts. Write it out, practice it, and be prepared to share it with team members at the team meetings.

### HOW TO PREPARE A PERSONAL TESTIMONY

A carefully prepared testimony, empowered by the Holy Spirit, can be of immediate and effective use in nearly every witnessing situation. It should be our desire to present Christ in such a clear, attractive, yet simple way that those who hear will not only want to know Him too, but they will also know “how” to know Him intimately.

### SOME CONSIDERATIONS – DO’S AND DON’TS

#### DO

- Ask the Lord to give you wisdom and guidance as you write (James 1:5,6)
- Follow the three-point outline: “My Life With Christ”
  1. Life before knowing Christ
  2. How you came to know Christ
  3. Life after you received Christ
- Emphasize all points, regardless of when you came to faith in Christ (as an adolescent or an adult).
- Begin with an interesting, attention-getting illustration/story, and close with giving thanks and glory to God
- Always reinforce what you are saying with Scripture, for the power is in the Word! (Rom. 1:16)
- Edit carefully, rewrite and memorize it!

#### DON’T

- Use Christian jargon. Words and phrases that would be unfamiliar to a non-believer (such as “I found Jesus”, or “I was totally depraved”). Though words and phrases like this are precious to us, they are often misunderstood and not comprehended by non-Christians.
- Be too wordy and/or beat around the bush (put into practice the truth of I Pet. 3:15 – what is means to give an answer of the hope you have, yet doing it with gentleness and respect).
- Speak about church denominations in a derogatory way. And guard against speaking harmfully about individuals and/or different people groups.
- Give the impression that the Christian life is “a bed of roses”.

### CONCLUDING CONSIDERATIONS

- Share it with loving enthusiasm as you are filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18).
- Speak loudly and clearly in a natural, relaxed tone of voice (avoid ministerial “twang”). Remember, when Jesus spoke, the crowds “were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips.” (Luke 4:22)
- Avoid mannerisms when you speak, such as rubbing your nose, jingling coins in your pocket, swaying, clearing your throat, and using “uh’s” and “ah’s”.
- Avoid arguing and other high-pressure methods of getting a “decision” for Christ. Remember, men are “born of the Spirit”, not through the persuasiveness or logic of men (note I Cor. 2:4-5).
- Smile often! “Let the joy of the Lord be your strength.” (Neh. 8:10) Pray the Lord would allow you to be radiant with your countenance and words.
- Memorize your testimony and practice it until it becomes natural.