

WRITING OUT YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Before I received Christ—

What was my life like? What were my attitudes, needs, or problems? Around what did my life revolve the most? From what did I get my security or happiness? How did those areas disappoint me? To what source did I look for security, peace of mind, or happiness? In what ways were my activities unsatisfying?

(Remember that personal examples from your life will establish you as a credible witness to non-believers. Avoid a “religious” focus and focus on the person of Christ and do not spend a great amount of time talking about church activities before your life began to change. Likewise, it is probably wise to avoid being explicit and sensational in speaking about sin struggles before you entered into a relationship with Christ.)

How I received Christ—

When was the first time I heard the Gospel? How? When was I exposed to true Christianity? What were my initial reactions? When did my attitude begin to change? Why? What final questions or struggles did I wrestle with before I accepted Christ? Even though there were struggles, how did God overcome those in my life?

After I received Christ—

Specific changes and illustrations about the changes Christ has made in my life, actions, and attitudes. How long did it take before I noticed changes? Why am I motivated differently? What are the ways I can see God growing me in my relationship with Him?

(If you received Christ at an early age, you will be able to follow this outline; however, you will probably put a greater emphasis on your life after receiving Christ.)

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION STARTERS

Where you've been...

- What was your religious background as a child?
- Was it positive, negative, or neutral? Why?
- What was the most valuable thing your background gave you?
- Who has had the most profound influence on you spiritually? Why?
- Have you ever experienced God? If so, how?

Where you are...

- What words would you use to describe your spiritual life right now?
- Do you have a spiritual belief of any kind?
- Who is Jesus to you?
- On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your desire to know God personally?
- Would it be OK if I prayed for you about that concern? (Pray)

Where you're going...

- At this stage of life, would you say you are moving toward God, away from God, or staying about the same?
- What do you believe happens after death?
- Some time could I share with you what I believe about those things?
- Some time could I share with you my spiritual journey?