



**B:** Begin with prayer **L:** Listen **E:** Eat **S:** Serve **S:** Story

## **I. WHAT IS A TESTIMONY?**

**A testimony is the story of what God has done for me**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

They won the victory over him [Satan] because of the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony.  
Revelation 12:11 (GWT)

## **II. WHY IS MY STORY SO POWERFUL?**

### **1. My testimony has power because:**

- It is unique and personal
- It is easy to understand
- I am an expert on it
- It is difficult to argue with
- People love stories
- People can relate to it

### **2. Ways to overcome my reluctance to share:**

**Reluctance:** “I just don’t know enough”

**Response:** I will never have all the answers to every challenging question. It is perfectly acceptable for me to say, “I don’t know”. People are not looking for answers as much as they are seeking an honest conversation. I can always say, “I may not know about that—but what I do know is what God has done for me.”

When I first came to you, dear brothers and sisters, I didn't use lofty words and impressive wisdom to tell you God's secret plan. For I decided that while I was with you I would forget everything except Jesus Christ, the one who was crucified. I came to you in weakness—timid and trembling. And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 (NLT)

...don't worry about how to respond or what to say. God will give you the right words at the right time. For it is not you who will be speaking—it will be the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Matthew 10:19b-20 (NLT)

### **Good News is better than arguments**

**Reluctance:** "I don't want to impose my beliefs on others"

**Response:** My story is not imposing—it is compelling! 79% of unchurched people agreed with the following statement; "I don't mind talking to a friend about their faith if they really value it"

**Reluctance:** "I feel uncomfortable sharing my story"

**Response:** I may get nervous, stumble over a word, or even lose my train of thought—but the result is worth the risk. My testimony doesn't have to be complicated.

## **III. HOW DO I COMPOSE MY STORY? - JOHN 9:1-34**

### **1. Three parts of my testimony:**

#### **Part 1: Who I was before I met Jesus— "I was blind"**

- What was my life, attitudes, relationships and priorities like BC before Christ?
- If I was raised a Christian—what was my life like before I got serious about following Him?

#### **Part 2: How I met Jesus— "He put mud on my eyes"**

- How did I realize I needed Him?
- What were the needs, problems, or hurts that only He could help with?
- Did a friend or family member share their faith with me or invite me to church?

#### **Part 3: What my life has been like since I met Jesus— "I was blind but now I see"**

- What difference has Jesus made in my life?
- How has knowing Him impacted my life through the good and bad times?
- How has my life, attitudes, relationships, and priorities changed for the better?

### **2. Four ways to compose my testimony:**

- **Be praying:** Ask God to help compose and share my story
- **Be prepared:** Write my story out
- **Be real:** Don't sugarcoat anything—my sins, failures and pain make it relatable
- **Be brief:** I should be able to present my story in 3 to 5 minutes if need be