

Hope-Story or Testimony Worksheet

Why prepare a personal testimony or write out the story explaining the reason for our hope?

1 Peter 3:15 says, "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect..."

All of us have a story of how we became a Christian and all of us need to be ready to share with others the reason for our hope. This worksheet is intended to help us write out our hope-story in 100 words or less.

How to write your testimony or hope-story:

The following questions can help you write out your testimony in three short paragraphs. Try to answer each question with one, two, or, at most three, short sentences. Your aim is to keep it short and sweet.

- What was your life like before you became a Christian?
- When and how did you make your commitment to follow Christ?
- How is your life different today because of Christ? (Try to keep it real. Don't give the impression that your life is perfect now. Your life may be different, but your life will never be perfect on this side of the grave.)

Or, if you grew up in home where you became a Christian at a very early age, it might be helpful to answer the following questions:

- Start with a short sentence or two of introduction explaining that you grew up in a Christian home and became a Christian at an early age. Then answer the following two questions:
- Where or how have you seen God make a difference in your life? (Perhaps an area of struggle, pain, disappointment, etc. People relate with our struggles. And they need to know how God has made a difference/is making a difference in your areas of struggle.)
- How is your life different today because of how God has worked or is working in your life in this area?

Tips:

- Pray. Ask God for wisdom in writing out your story.
- Don't underestimate the power of your story. Some people have stories that may sound more dramatic. But God's work in your life is no less significant or special.
- Be real. Don't try to make things sound more dramatic than they are.
- Keep it short and simple. It's a good idea to have a testimony that you can share in a minute or less. (Aim for 100 words or less.)
- Use everyday language. Avoid overly religious language that most non-Christians don't understand or relate to.
- Sometimes it can be helpful to memorize a verse to go with your testimony that speaks to how God has worked in your life.