

How to Share Your Story

Everyone has a story - his or her own personal and unique story. What is your personal story of faith? Can you share the essence of your faith journey in three minutes? For an effective story you will need to answer some questions.

Ask yourself these questions:

1. What was my life like before I personally knew Jesus?

WHERE WAS I?

What was your life like before? Before what? Before you came into a deeper experience of Jesus' love for you – before you really knew deep down in your heart that God is real and that He is working in your life.

2. How did I realize I needed him? How did I commit my life to the Lord?

WHAT HAPPENED?

What was the moment when you knew that your spiritual status quo needed to change? When did God step into your life in a more personal and profound way? What happened? What did you experience - what new awareness came to you and how did you respond?

3. What difference has Jesus made in my life?

WHERE AM I NOW?

What is your life like now? How is it different? In what way has your newfound faith made a difference in your life? What has God taught me: from failure, from a lack of money, from sorrow or depression, from loss, through waiting, through illness, through disappointment?

Tips for Organizing and Sharing Your Personal Faith Story

1. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to inspire you and remind you of events or experiences in your life that will help you write your story.
2. Keep it simple and brief
3. Don't use "churchy" words or clichés or academic terms
4. Don't preach or teach
5. Use concrete details
6. Remember you are simply telling your story, you are not trying to convince the listener of anything

Resources:

Sharing Christ Study Guide (pp 9-12) available for review from the Office for Evangelization or purchase at www.christlife.org

Young college students' simple story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MGXr1KMKqoQ>

Christine Watkins' very dramatic story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33HnrQvliuM>

Practical Practice:

Write out your 3 Minute Witness following the above guidelines. It should be no more than 1-2 pages.

Share your Witness with someone and write a paragraph or two about your experience.