

Faith and Purpose Podcast Guidelines

Thank you for being willing to share your faith story on this new podcast! Here is what you need to know to get ready:

Whether you have ever shared your story with anyone or not, the time you spend preparing and telling your story can be the most effective use of your time ever. Jesus used stories because He created humans to be impacted by story more than any other form of communication.

The purpose of **Faith and Purpose** Podcast is to edify believers and draw unbelievers through the power of story. The tagline is “**Stories To Inspire and Encourage.**” People are more drawn to, and inspired by, real life stories than by theology. Your unique life experience can reach someone in a way that no one else’s story can.



We'll be able to see each other via Zoom (or in person) but I will only record audio. Don't worry I'll be editing out mistakes and noises.

We'll only have about an hour, so you won't have time to tell everything about your life. It would be helpful to make some notes to help you stay focused on the most meaningful events, people, and God-encounters that you want to share. Your notes are just to help you remember what you want to say. We don't want it to sound like you're reading.

The following are some **ideas** for telling your story:

1. Think about your life story in a chronological way. Write down people and events that were meaningful in shaping your spiritual walk.
2. Especially focus on struggles and how your faith got you through and what you learned by them.
3. What drew you to Jesus?
4. Have you had traumas, crises of faith, or doubts along the way?
5. What life challenges have you had to overcome on your faith journey? Think about sharing your trials with the intention of encouraging or comforting others. (Remember 2 Corinthians 1:3-5)
6. If you are currently in the midst of a trial, consider what you can share that would be helpful to someone else, and what you may want to keep private until you have received your victory.
7. If you plan on telling any painful parts of your story that include other people you may want to get their permission in advance, or plan on keeping them anonymous..
8. I will mostly be listening, but I may ask questions to help you expand or clarify significant parts of your story, and I may make comments to amplify something you say or to reinforce it with relevant scripture. The overall goal is for you to just tell your story in a natural, conversational way as if talking to a friend:

We'll go over any questions you may have before we begin recording.

Here are some ideas to help you think about your story. But when we start recording the most important thing is to just let Holy Spirit lead you because He knows who will be listening and what they need to hear from you.

1. What was your life like before Jesus?
 - a. When and where were you born?
 - b. What was it like growing up there?
 - c. What was your childhood like? (Parents, grandparents, siblings, school, church, friends, activities, etc.)
 - d. Significant people and events

2. What happened to bring you to faith in Christ?
 - a. When and how did you first hear about Jesus?
 - b. What sort of discipleship did you receive?
 - c. How did your life change?

4. What were some of the trials and challenges you have had to meet in your life?
 - a. Why do you think that happened?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. What did you learn from that?

5. What is your life like now and how do you experience your relationship with God today?
 - a. Relationships
 - b. Ministry
 - c. Work
 - d. Daily walk

Toward the end of our time I will ask you two things:

1. What do you think your life purpose is today?
2. What one bit of wisdom can you share with listeners that you've learned on your spiritual journey?

After that I'll ask you to pray for the listeners then we'll wrap it up.

Here are some important technical guidelines:

In order to get the best quality recording of your story please be ready with the following:

Pick a date and time when you won't be interrupted for at least an hour, and you won't feel rushed. We'll set up a date to record via Zoom, Squadcast, or other form of recording. I'll familiarize you with the apps beforehand.

Find a quiet space where you won't be interrupted by leaf blowers, mowers, planes, loud cars, alarms, air conditioners, pets, kids, etc. A room with sound absorbing materials like curtains, pillows, couches and rugs will have the best acoustics. It doesn't have to be perfect because I can edit out some noise.

If you don't have the Zoom app on your computer you can download it for free. I'll send a link in your email to our session and let you know when I've sent it. If we use Squadcast you won't need an app. The link I send you will be enough.

It would be best to use a microphone and a headset that you can plug in to your computer or iPad. If you don't have a microphone or headphones, wired earbuds with a built-in mic will work. This will prevent any feedback, echoing, or confusion that can come by using the computer or phone speakers. But if all you have is Bluetooth earbuds, we'll make it work...

Before we start the interview we'll both have to make sure that other apps are closed and our phones are silenced we we don't get unintended noise.

We will be able to see each other during the interview but the podcast will only be in audio.

Thanks!
Jesse