



Living Hope Church of the Nazarene

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR TESTIMONY

Luke 8:39 says, ³⁹*“Return to your house and describe what great things God has done for you.”* So he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him. What God has done in your life is nothing short of a miracle. During these past weeks, we described it as a new birth. Your life has indeed been transformed and sharing what God has done in your life is a powerful tool to share your faith. When you share it with believers, you show how God is still actively expanding His Kingdom. When you share it with non-believers, you are opening the door to conversations that could lead to someone turning to Christ. Probably the best part of it is that you are sharing something that happened to you, so you don't need to be a Bible expert to do it. These steps might help you to be prepared when the time comes.

1. Pray. John 14:26 says, ²⁶*“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.* Ask God to give you wisdom as you write.
2. Describe. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, ¹⁷*“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*
 - a) What was your life like before becoming a believer?
 - b) How did you hear about Christ and how did you come to believe in Him as Saviour and Lord? (Who, where and what influenced your decision?)
 - c) What has changed? (Habits broken or taken, feelings lost or gained)
3. Use the Bible. Isaiah 55:11 says, ¹¹*“So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And*



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without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. Is there a verse that shows the power of the change you have gone through? Share your favourite Bible verse.

4. Read it over and make changes if needed.



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Important tips as you write your testimony

- Remember at all times that this is your story and has a simple message behind it: God saves. Just as in the Bible, your story is meant to glorify Him, not yourself.
- Remember you want to share God's love. Keep the message simple and short.
- Choose your words. You may have already picked up words Christians use but are not part of every day language. Avoid them as much as possible. Terms like *born again*, *saved*, *blessed*, etc. Are words that have little meaning in today's world.
- This is about God and you. Avoid talking about churches, denominations, or even other beliefs; specially in a derogatory way.
- This is life at its best but not perfection. Following Christ is the best thing that can happen to anyone but it doesn't mean life's problems are over. John 16:33 says, *³³These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."*
- Remember you are sharing, not preaching. You know that you have been saved of a terrible destiny but that is the outcome of a love you found. What you want people to do is to find that love for themselves. You can't share this love through fear, argumentation or pressure.
- Pray often for those who hear your story.