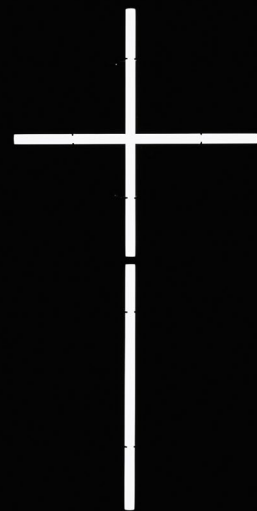


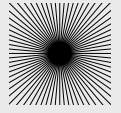
How to share your testimony





**YOUR TESTIMONY IS
A POWERFUL TOOL.
IT OFTEN OPENS
THE SHARING THE
GOSPEL AND SEEING
PEOPLE COME TO
KNOW CHRIST.
THIS GUIDE IS
DESIGNED TO HELP
YOU SUMMARIZE
YOUR PERSONAL
TESTIMONY
SUCCINCTLY AND
TO THE POINT.**

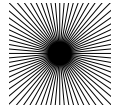
The purpose of preparing a testimony is not necessarily to memorize it and give it verbatim. Rather, we want to give you three practical steps that can help you put into words how your personal relationship with Jesus has changed your life.



BEFORE HOW & AFTER

Every person's story has a before, a how, and an after. Regardless of when a person came to know Jesus (e.g. at 7 years or 77 years old). We all had an encounter with Jesus which has shaped our discipleship. For some, it may have been a 180-degree turnaround and some have been on the journey with Jesus all their lives. The important thing is that every story is equally powerful.

Because what makes your testimony powerful is not the size of the difference between before and after, but your realization that you need Jesus - whether you were once a drug addict or were brought up in a Christian home. Everyone needs Jesus to come to God. This realization may sometimes require even more humility when life seems perfect on the outside.



BEFORE

Many people's actions in life spring out of their unsatisfied deep inner needs. This manifests in particular ways, such as loneliness, lack of peace, no meaning to life, fear of death, desire to be in control...

What were one or two of your unsatisfied deep inner needs before you came to know Jesus Christ?

Non-Christians often try to satisfy their deep inner needs through unsatisfactory solutions that can be positive or negative, such as relationships, work, drugs/alcohol, sport, money, education, sex...

In the past, what unsatisfactory solutions have you used to attempt to meet those inner needs?

HOW

Describe the circumstances that caused you to consider a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Identify the events that led to your conversion and state specifically the steps you took to become a Christian.

AFTER

State how Christ is filling your deep inner needs and explain the difference you can see in your life compared to before. Be authentic. Let them know that life can still be a struggle. You might want to share how your relationship with Christ has helped you through a tough time.

Conclude with a statement like this: "But one of the greatest benefits is that I know with certainty that I have eternal life."

Often it is natural to move from the testimony into a clear presentation of the gospel. You can do this, for example, using the four points explained on www.thefour.de.