

Testimony Outline How to write your "Story of Faith"

The Gospels are full of encounters between Jesus and other people, many of whom became His followers. They represent a great variety of personalities from many different backgrounds. The one thing they all have in common is that Jesus changed their lives.

One of the most dramatic incidents that illustrates this fact is the meeting between Jesus and the man from Gerasa who had demons in him (see *Luke 8:26-39*). When he was healed, he wanted to join the wandering band of disciples. Instead, he was told to, "Go back home and tell what God has done for you," (v.39). He obeyed and became a powerful witness for Jesus throughout the town.

Our stories really do matter to Jesus. He wants us to understand our story so that we can bring God glory. When we know our stories with clarity and confidence, we honor what God has done in our lives. "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." (1 Peter 3:15)

Some may have a dramatic "before I met Jesus" story and some may not, but regardless, there's tremendous value in all our stories. *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)* Literally, we were spiritually dead and now we are spiritually alive in Christ.

The following is a suggested outline for writing your story:

- 1. What was your life like before you met Jesus?
- 2. What did God use to get your attention?
- 3. How did you respond to Jesus?
- 4. Where are you now in your relationship with Jesus?

To offer your testimony, write your story using 100-200 words. Summarize how you came to know Christ as your Savior and describe the present condition of your spiritual life.

Spend the LEAST amount of time on the first question progressing incrementally to end with spending the MOST of your time on the last question.

Within two days of your baptism orientation, please return your neatly-written or typed 100-200 word testimony on a separate 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper to Guest Services at your campus. Please sign and date your testimony. Or email your testimony to <u>baptism@grangerchurch.com</u>.