

Your Testimony

As part of *Growing Together*, we'll be sharing personal testimonies each week. During the first meeting, your leaders will share their own stories and guide you through how to write yours. They'll also assign volunteers to share in the weeks ahead, giving everyone the opportunity to encourage one another through the unique ways God has worked in our lives.

Telling your story, or giving your testimony, is a great way to share how Christ has transformed your life. Similar to an “elevator pitch”, you should have your story ready to go at any moment, and in any situation. You should be able to give your testimony in 2-3 minutes. But to be able to be concise, you have to write it out and practice telling it a few times. But always remember, this is not a sermon, but a story that hopefully opens up the appetite for wanting to hear more about the Gospel.

You will have the opportunity to share your testimony with your Life Group during the *Growing Together* study. Here is a general outline to help you give the **BEST** way to share what God has done in you.

B

Before you were saved

What were the key factors in your life before Christ? People want to hear how your life was before you were saved. Build bridges and establish common ground with your listener. Don't use disgusting details or glorifying past sins.

E

Events leading up to salvation

What events and circumstances led up to your receiving Christ? You can use one key principle or problem (ex., lack of peace, pride, no direction, emptiness, etc.).

You can quickly mention how it affected your day-to-day life, and share what your fears and thoughts were.

S

Salvation day

How did you receive Christ? Make sure to focus on Christ, including His love and provision. Bring up what thoughts were going through your mind. How did it happen? Specifically, tell people how you received him so that when they want to make a commitment to Christ, they will know what to do. Avoid religious jargon, and use words they can easily understand. If possible, try to describe your feelings at that time.

T

Today

Describe how your life changed, and how Christ is working in you today? Show how your decision to follow Christ has helped you deal with the things that led to your salvation (fears, problems, etc.). Focus on the most striking change. Be honest—share your excitement for what Christ is doing in your life right now!