



Stone Mountain First United Methodist Church

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Faith-sharing Snapshot

Helpful Tips for Sharing Your Faith Journey in Three Minutes

Scripture: 1 Peter 3:15-16 (NRSVUE) *"...¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame."*

Introduction

Faith sharing is a personal account of how you experienced faith, encountered God, or witnessed spiritual transformation in your life. SMFUMC Discipleship Ministry hopes the following tips will help you articulate your faith, orally or in writing, in a clear, authentic, and impactful way.

Tips for Sharing

- Be authentic and speak from the heart.
- Keep your testimony concise—aim for 3 to 5 minutes when spoken.
- Focus on your personal experience; avoid preaching.
- Respect the beliefs and backgrounds of your listeners.

1. Opening: Introducing Yourself

- Share your name and a **very brief** background (family, work, or where you grew up).

2. Life Before Faith/Transformation (55 seconds)

- Describe your life before your spiritual awakening or faith encounter.
- Highlight challenges, emptiness, or questions you had.
- Be honest but avoid glorifying negative details.

3. Encounter: How You Came to Faith (55 seconds)

- Explain the circumstances that led you to seek God or a deeper spiritual life.
- Describe any events, people, or experiences that influenced your faith decision.
- Share how you felt during this time and what changed your perspective.

4. Transformation: How Your Life Changed (45 seconds)

- Share specific changes in your thoughts, behaviors, or relationships since your spiritual encounter.

- Mention positive outcomes, peace, hope, or purpose you have experienced.
- Include a brief scripture, prayer, or quote that has inspired you, **if desired**.

5. Current Walk: Living Out Your Faith Today (15 seconds)

- Discuss how your faith shapes your daily life, decisions, and relationships now.
- If applicable, share ongoing challenges and how faith helps you face them.

6. Invitation or Encouragement (10 seconds)

- Encourage your audience to reflect on their spiritual journey.
- Offer hope, understanding, or an invitation to explore faith for themselves.
- End with a heartfelt thank you for listening.

Conclusion

Remember, your story is unique and valuable. Sharing your spiritual testimony can inspire and uplift others, opening doors for meaningful conversations about faith.

Sample Testimony Outline

1. My name is [Your Name], and I grew up in [brief background].
2. For many years, I felt [describe feelings/life before faith, e.g., lost, searching for purpose].
3. Things began to change when [describe how you encountered faith: a friend, event, hardship, etc.].
4. Through this experience, I realized [describe the insight or moment of faith].
5. Since then, my life has changed in these ways: [share positive outcomes and ongoing growth].
6. Today, my faith helps me [describe your current walk and its impact].
7. I hope my story encourages you to reflect on your journey. Thank you for listening.

55 seconds: What my life was like before my encounter with Jesus.

55 seconds: My encounter with Jesus...How I came to faith.

45 seconds: How my life has changed...my transformation, since my encounter with Jesus.

15 seconds: My current walk...how I am living out my faith daily.

15 seconds: My invitation/encouragement to follow Jesus. Heartfelt THANK YOU for listening, if sharing orally.