

Writing Your Baptism Testimony

A guide for sharing your story at Mercy Village Church

Why We Share Testimonies at Baptism

Baptism is a sacred moment. At Mercy Village Church, we refer to it as a **sacrament**—a God-given and grace-filled act of worship. It's also a **symbol** of what Jesus has done for us, a **story** of how that grace has changed our lives, and a **celebration** of new life in Christ and belonging to His church.

Your baptism is a chance to **share that story**—a way to proclaim, in your own words, what Jesus has done for you. Through your testimony, you're not only honoring the work of God in your life—you're also encouraging others who may be wrestling with questions, doubts, or a longing to follow Jesus themselves.

We believe baptism is more than just a step of obedience. It's a **sacred milestone** in the life of a believer and a **public witness** to the church and the world: *"My life is committed from this point forward totally and completely to Jesus Christ."*

So when you share your testimony, you're not just giving information—you're bearing witness to the gospel. And we can't wait to celebrate that with you.

What Is a Testimony?

Your "testimony" is simply a short story about how you've come to trust in Jesus. Everyone's story is different—some dramatic, some quiet, some over time, some in a moment. But they all point to the same truth: **Jesus saves, and He is worthy of our lives.**

We invite everyone being baptized at Mercy Village to write out their story and read it aloud just before entering the water. It usually takes **less than 60 seconds** to share.

Your testimony should include these five simple parts:

1. **Life before faith:** What was your life like before you trusted Jesus? (This can be brief—especially for kids who've grown up in a church context.)
 2. **Coming to faith:** When and how did you come to believe in Jesus? What helped you understand your need for Him?
 3. **The turning point:** Were there any key conversations, events, or realizations that played a role?
 4. **A declaration of faith:** This is where you affirm that you've placed your trust in Jesus and want to follow Him.
 5. **Gratitude:** Mention anyone (family, friends, mentors) who helped you along the way.
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A Few Helpful Notes

- Aim to write something that can be read slowly and clearly in **under a minute**.
 - Keep it honest and simple. This isn't a performance—it's your story.
 - It's okay if you don't remember an exact moment of conversion. Some testimonies involve a gradual awakening to grace over time.
 - Parents of younger children can help them craft their testimony in their own words, or co-read it with them if needed.
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Sample Testimonies

Adult Example:

My name is Jane Doe. A few months ago, I started realizing that I had been trying to carry everything on my own. I had heard the gospel many times, but it finally clicked—I needed Jesus. I confessed my sin and placed my trust in Him. I now know I'm forgiven and loved, and I want to live for Him. I want to thank my sister and my community group for praying for me and helping me take this step.

Child Example:

Hi! My name is Johnny, and I'm 10 years old. One night, I talked to my mom about Jesus and asked questions about sin and forgiveness. I told Jesus I was sorry for my sin and that I believe He died and rose for me. I want to follow Him, and I'm excited to be baptized. Thanks to my mom and dad and my Sunday school teacher for helping me know Jesus!

General Example:

I'm John Doe. Over the past year, I've realized that all the success I was chasing didn't satisfy me. God used friends and conversations to slowly open my heart to the truth. About a month ago, I trusted in Jesus and gave my life to Him. I'm being baptized today as a symbol of that transformation and as a way to say—my life belongs to Jesus now.

Final Step: Send Us Your Testimony

Once you've written your testimony, please send it to a pastor at least **one week before your baptism**. This gives us time to help you refine it if needed and make sure you feel confident and ready.

We are so excited to celebrate your baptism with you.
Thank you for sharing your story—it matters.