

MISSION

We exist to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ among all peoples.

Begin with Prayer

Listen with Care

Eat Together

Serve with Love

Share Your Story and God's Story

Outreach Temperature Check-Up

- What's your current Outreach Temperature?
- Share one story of a spiritual conversation or a way you BLESSed an unchurched person over the last month.
- What steps will you take next month to BLESS people on your FRANCES list?



Share Your Story and God's Story

The Demon-possessed Man

"... 'Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.' And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled."

(Mark 5:19-20)

Sharing Your Story – Why Do We Share Our Stories?

When we live a Jesus-centered life, we are called to share the things He has done for us. Our personal stories testify to the reality of God's work in our lives. People may debate theology or resist preaching, but no one can deny your story. You don't need complicated training. It only takes life-changing experiences with Jesus, a heart to share them with others, and some simple approaches to do it.

The Blind Man

"Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind and now I see." (John 9:25)

Simple Two-Word Testimony

We call this the Two-Word Testimony. It's a way to summarize your story of transformation in just two words. The man was **blind** from birth. He walked away from a life-changing experience able to **see**. Jesus met him at a point of need and he eventually came to believe in Christ. He had a life issue or problem that Jesus helped him resolve. It didn't take many words for the blind man to testify of how Jesus worked in his life!

Exercise

Take a few minutes to think and pray about two words that would describe your life before trusting Christ and how he changed you as a result of trusting and following him. Write a brief statement describing how the shift occurred.

Stories don't have to be long or complicated so keep them short and clear. Jesus uses the ordinary moments of our lives to reveal His extraordinary power.

One to two minutes should be enough time for you to share your Two-Word Testimony. These are your personal stories and not your personal sermons. Also, be careful about using words in your stories that unchurched people don't understand.

1. Think of your life before you put your faith in Christ or began seriously following him. Choose one word that characterized your life apart from Christ and write it down.

First Word: _____

2. Identify one word that best contrasts the first word. The second word summarizes how Jesus began to resolve the issue or problem represented by the first word. Write it down.

Second Word: _____

3. Write a short explanation of how God worked in your life to make the shift.

4. Break into groups of 2-3 and share your Two-Word Testimony with each other.

We can develop Two-Word Testimonies for many areas of our lives. We've all experienced God's provision, or his answer to our prayers, or his emotional, spiritual, or physical healing in some way. These experiences can all be captured in Two-Word Testimonies that you'll have ready to share when you need them.

Discussion Questions:

1. What part of your story feels hardest to share? Why?
2. What fears or obstacles keep you from sharing your story?

Assignment:

1. Update your Outreach Temperature Card with action items and deadlines.
2. Refine and share your Two-Word Testimony with one person on your FRANCES list.