

After: Now that I know Christ as my personal Savior, these are some changes that I noticed:

What specific changes did you see in your attitude and actions?

How are you motivated differently now?

Talk about your life since you accepted Christ. It is very important at this point not to give the impression that your life is problem free. Many believers have found that after they came to Christ, God made them aware of many areas of their lives that required work and He allowed various trials to invade their lives. Their lives may have actually been more difficult than before. Be honest about how Christ has made a difference in the difficult times as well as the good. Share how Jesus is still transforming you today.

Written Testimony

Now select and write what you would like to include.

Before: Before I received Christ, here's how I thought and lived:

During: Here's how I came to understand the gospel and received Christ personally:

After: Now that I know Christ as my personal Savior, these are some changes that I noticed:

Sermon Notes

Benefits of Biblical Practices Sermon Series
"Sharing How God is at Work in Your Life"

Various Texts
March 22, 2026

Preparing Your Testimony

Tips:

1. Keep it short. Aim for two to three minutes. That way it can be shared in a variety of settings and adapted to be longer if necessary. It's always easier to add more details to a prepared shorter story than to strip out details from a prepared longer story.
2. Make it personal without Christian clichés or preaching. Use "I" and "me," not "you." Don't assume a different speaking style when sharing this. Be yourself.
3. You need not shy away from admitting to moral failures in your past, but you need not recount what, where, and how often details. Tell of your experience using descriptive phrases that keep it suitable for a PG audience.
4. Use the following outline keeping Jesus' work as the focus. Write out your story. Edit out what's unnecessary.
5. Include an explanation of the gospel in a sentence or two.

Outline:

Paul gives a good example of a personal testimony in Acts 22:1-22. Paul recounts his hatred of Christianity before he came to know Christ (vv. 1-5). Then he describes how he met Christ on the Damascus Road (vv. 6-10). Finally, he describes what happened to him after he received Christ (vv. 11-22). Following his example, our testimony should include three things:

1. Before: a little about my life before knowing Christ.
2. During: how I came into my relationship with Christ.
3. After: how my life has been changed by Christ.

Hinge:

Point 2 in the outline forms a hinge, a turning point. This usually is how and when you trusted Christ. For some, they trusted Christ at such an early age that they don't remember much of life before knowing Christ. In such cases, you may choose to hinge your story on a point of recommitment to Christ, your first encounter with dynamic Christianity, or another significant turning point in your Christian life (perhaps after a time of not walking with the Lord). Or, you might begin your testimony by talking about a time when you were not walking with the Lord and then hinge with a flash back to when you met Christ as a child.

Build your testimony around a theme from your experience that is of general interest to non-Christians. For example: pursuit of success, life's best, money, dreams of the future, failure, sin patterns. Set up the hinge by telling about your life before you trusted Christ (or recommitted your life - the hinge) and then tell how your life was changed *in that same topic or theme* by Christ.

Testimony Worksheet

Here are some additional questions to help in crafting your story. You need not answer all the questions. Rather use them to spark ideas and then select what you would like to include.

Descriptive Adjectives:

To help you get started, try listing some adjectives that describe your life before Christ (*i.e., afraid, lonely, proud, greedy, etc.*).

List some adjectives that describe your life now (*i.e., calm, peaceful, connected, humbled, etc.*).

Are there any pairs of contrasting adjectives that form a theme you could focus your testimony upon?

Before: Before I received Christ, here's how I thought and lived:

What did your life revolve around? Attitudes, needs, problems?

How was that unsatisfying?

Perhaps tell about the emotional, intellectual or volitional barriers God had to overcome in your life to get you to see your need for Christ.

During: Here's how I came to understand the gospel and received Christ personally:

Describe the event or person God used to bring you to Christ. It may have been a crisis in your life or some friend or relative. Recount what happened to you.

When did you hear about Christ and what were your initial reactions?

When and why did you begin to feel positive about Him?

What was the turning point in your attitude and what barriers did you experience?