

# My Story That No One Can Deny

He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

-John 9:25 (NIV84)

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| <p><b>"LEAD-IN"</b><br/>(Acts 26:2-3)</p> <p>-Will Always Vary<br/>-Tailor To Audience</p>                        |  |
| <p><b>"BEFORE"</b><br/>(Acts 26:4-11)</p>   |  |
| <p><b>"HOW"</b><br/>(Acts 26:12-20)</p>   |  |
| <p><b>"AFTER"</b><br/>(Acts 26:21-23)</p>   |  |
| <p><b>"CLOSING"</b><br/>(Acts 26:24-29)</p> <p>-Will Always Vary<br/>-Tailor To Audience<br/>-Ask A Question?</p> |  |

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# How To Share Your Testimony

## A Story That No One Can Deny

"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect"  
**-1 Peter 3:15 (NIV84)**

You are writing a gospel, a chapter each day, by the deeds that you do and the words that you say.  
 Men read what you write (or hear what you say)—distorted or true; what is the gospel according to you?  
**-Anonymous**

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| <p><b>WHAT IS YOUR STORY FORMAT?</b></p>                 | <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. <u>Adult Conversion</u>- You trusted Christ as an adult. You have a distinct before, how and after.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. <u>Early Conversion/Adult Deeper Commitment</u>- You made a decision for Christ as a child, but did not live it, you lived a lifestyle similar to that of a non-Christian until you reached a point of crisis and recommitted your life to Christ. Evaluate whether your early conversion experience was genuine. If you conclude it was not genuine, then use Adult Conversion as your model.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. <u>Early Conversion/Adult Deeper Growth</u>- You probably grew up with Christian parents and have a strong church background. You accepted Christ at an early age and had consistent spiritual growth throughout your life up until today. You may have very little in your <i>BEFORE</i>.</p>  |  |
| <p><b>HOW DO I ORGANIZE MY STORY?</b></p>                | <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. <u>Chronological</u>- In this approach you tell your story in the chronological sequence in which it happened. This method is best used if you accepted Christ or recommitted your life to Christ later in life.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. <u>Overview/Flashback</u>- You may use this approach if you trusted Christ at an early age. You can also use this if you had an uneventful and short <i>BEFORE</i> and/or <i>HOW</i>.</p>  |  |
| <p><b>PREPARING YOUR "BEFORE"</b><br/>(Acts 26:4-11)</p> | <p>What were one or two of your unsatisfied deep inner needs before you came to know Jesus Christ?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack Of Peace</li> <li>• Fear Of Death</li> <li>• Something Missing</li> <li>• No Meaning To Life</li> <li>• Desire To Be In Control</li> <li>• Can't Shake Bad Habits</li> <li>• Dissatisfied With Life</li> </ul>   | <p>What unsatisfactory solutions did you use to try to meet those deep inner needs? List positive as well as negative solutions you may have tried.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loneliness</li> <li>• Lack Of Security</li> <li>• Lack Of Purpose</li> <li>• Lack Of Significance</li> <li>• No Real Friends</li> <li>• No Motivation</li> <li>• Depression</li> <li>• Marriage/Family</li> <li>• Work</li> <li>• Drugs/Alcohol</li> <li>• Sports/Fitness</li> <li>• Material Possessions</li> <li>• Money</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Hobbies/Entertainment</li> <li>• Sex</li> <li>• Wrong Friends</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PREPARING YOUR "HOW"</b><br/>(Acts 26:12-20)</p>   | <p>Describe the circumstances that caused you to consider Christ as the solution to your deep inner needs. What events led to your conversion? In some cases this may have taken place over a period of time.</p>   | <p>State specifically the steps you took to become a Christian. If there is a particular passage of Scripture that applies here, you may want to use it. Usually you will simply paraphrase it.</p> <p>Include the gospel clearly and briefly as you understood it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Have Sinned (Romans 3:23)</li> <li>• Sin's Penalty (Romans 6:23)</li> <li>• Christ Paid The Penalty (Romans 5:8)</li> <li>• Must Receive Christ (Romans 10:9-10)</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PREPARING YOUR "AFTER"</b><br/>(Acts 26:21-23)</p> | <p>State how Christ filled or is filling your deep inner needs. In the <i>BEFORE</i>, you expressed your needs and how you tried unsuccessfully to meet them. You now want to briefly show the difference that Christ has made in your life.</p>  | <p>Conclude with a statement like: "But the greatest benefit is that I know for certain that I have eternal life." The person you talk to will tend to comment on the last thing you say. You can also ask them a question to find continue the conversation.</p>  |
| <p><b>OTHER GUIDELINES</b></p>                           | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make it sound conversational. Use informal language like you are talking to a friend. This is not a speech.</li> <li>2. Share about what happened to you, don't preach. Say "I" and "Me," not "You".</li> <li>3. Avoid religious words, phrases, and jargon.</li> <li>4. Generalize so they can identify with your story. Don't name specific churches, denominations, or groups.</li> <li>5. Include some humor and real stories from your life. Your emotions and experiences will relate to others.</li> <li>6. Be descriptive as you tell about situations and settings in your story.</li> <li>7. Sound adult, not juvenile. Reflect an adult point of view even if you were converted at an early age.</li> <li>8. Avoid mystical statements that skeptics can question: "I prayed and God gave me a job," or "God said to me."</li> <li>9. Simplify-reduce "clutter". Combine information when you can, mention limited people and use first names.</li> <li>10. Explain how Christ met or is meeting your deep inner needs, but do not communicate that all your struggles and problems ended at conversion.</li> </ol> |  |

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