

2 – Sharing Begins With You

“28 The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, 29 “Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?” ... 39 And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me all that I ever did.”

-- John 4:28-29, 34 (NKJV)



The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we currently live. The impact of social distancing has affected everyone during this time. Shopping is different. The economy is different. Church services are different. **At least one thing remains the same ... people need Christ.** They need to hear the life-changing, hope-giving message of the gospel. During challenging and uncertain times like these, people are looking for answers and may be more receptive to the Truth of God’s Word. **Have you thought about how you can do that even during quarantine?**

THE GOSPEL STARTS WITH YOU

Looking at the interaction between Jesus and the Samaritan woman He met at the well in Sychar in John chapter 4, we discover that the gospel’s first impact begins with us! That is, what happened to us as a result of our faith in Jesus becomes the very thing that will impact the lives of others. The Bible says ... *“many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me all that I ever did.”* Simply put, salvation came to many people in that city because a woman who met Jesus took the time to share her testimony with others!

When we became believers, we turned away from our old way of life, to the one true and living God, for the purpose of serving Him forever.

SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY: “Your Story Is God’s Story”

Remember ...When you tell your story, *it’s God who is responsible for changing people’s hearts.* You are simply called to be ready and to share what God has done in your life. No matter how simple or complicated it is, **your story** (or “testimony”) is meant to be told and can help introduce people to Jesus (John 4:29, 39).

Here Are Three Simple Steps To Writing Your Own Testimony. Take a few minutes to work through these questions so you can be ready for the next open door God gives you to tell your story.

1. My Life Before Christ

- What about my life before Christ will relate most to the non-Christians I know?
- What did my life revolve around? Where did I get my security, identity or happiness from?
- How did those things begin to let me down?

2. How I Came to Christ

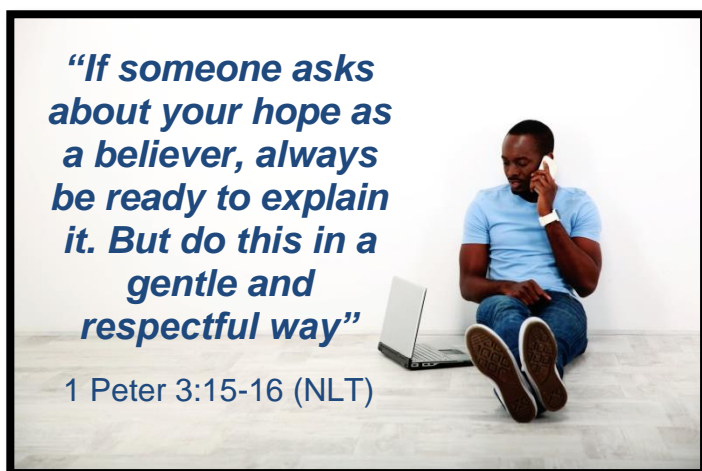
- When was the first time I heard the gospel? What were my initial reactions?
- When and why did my perspective of Christ begin to change?
- What were the final struggles that went through my mind just before I accepted Him? Why did I finally decide to trust and accept Jesus (or give Him complete control of my life)?

My Life After Coming to Christ

- How is my life different now? List some specific changes in your character, attitude and perspective on life.
- What motivates me now? What do I live for?
- Even though my life still isn't perfect, how does knowing Christ help me deal with that fact?

Helpful Hints

- Pray before you write out and share your story. Ask God for wisdom and the words to say.
- Write the way you speak.
- Be honest.
- Aim to keep your story to three to five minutes. At that length, it's easily something you can share in a conversation without it becoming a monologue.
- Practice your testimony out loud several times until you feel comfortable with it.



Ask God for opportunities to share your story and the gospel with others!