

# MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY

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**1. My life before following Christ**

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**2. How I became a Christian**

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**3. Today my life as a Christian is**

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## Key Points to Remember when Writing Your Testimony

**'Before following Christ'** - Be *general* about your life before Christ. You don't want the hearer to dwell on your sins. Describing feelings is helpful (e.g. pain, loneliness, emptiness, uncertainty of eternity, etc.), but avoid needless sin details. If you say, "I was a [thief/etc.]" the the hearer may thing, "I'm not *that* bad - I don't need Christ the way *s/he* does." General descriptions of sin have broader impact. If you say, "I was rebellious and sinned all the time," THEN the hearer may identify by thinking, "I bet s/he was a drinker, like *me*." And, finally, don't spend 5 minutes on sin versus only 30 seconds on salvation and your new life!

**(How I became a Christian)** - Make sure this section gives the *gospel!* Your testimony may be the only chance for someone to hear the gospel. *The gospel is:* we are sinners who are saved only when we put our faith in Christ, who died for our sins, was buried, and raised. Scripture does *not* say that we were saved by 'walking the aisle', or 'asking Jesus into our hearts', or other Christian-ese jargon. Be clear. Avoid 'churchy' terms.

**'Today my life as a Christian is'** - This section should show benefits, not problems! Tell of the joy, peace, and forgiveness Jesus gave you - instead of "since trusting Christ, I have had nothing but problems". If you really must mention the problems, a better approach would be, "After I trusted Christ, He has always given me strength and peace, even when I have problems." But *never* dwell on the problems!