

Testimony Development

What is a testimony?

- Your story of God's faithfulness in your life. The purpose is to testify to God's faithfulness.
 - Some people say "I don't have a good testimony". If testimonies are about God's faithfulness then how can a testimony not be good or be boring?
 - For mission trips, a testimony is used as tool to bridge to gospel
- Not a life story which is commonly used for purpose of connecting with team members.

Tips for developing a testimony:

- Consider your audience. Assume they have no church background so you need to explain what you mean to say.
- Include the gospel message in your testimony (who Jesus is, what He did for you that you could not do for yourself). This will make it easier to transition into sharing the gospel.

A testimony should include:

1. My life before Christ
2. Turning point
3. My life after Christ

Jane Sample's Testimony:

I grew up in a Christian home. My family went to church and Sunday School all the time. When I was in 7th grade, I felt like it was time for me to make my own decision for my faith so I accepted Christ at a Student Life camp and was baptized shortly after that. Since then, I sometimes struggle to do the right things all the time, but I know that I have been forgiven, redeemed and I am being sanctified.

- What was said in the testimony that would not be easily understood by someone who is un-churched or from a different culture?
- How could you say it differently?

