

# SHARING YOUR STORY OF COMING TO FAITH

## Why Your Story Matters

The Bible is one big story and many smaller stories. Jesus taught through stories. In every culture, storytelling connects people—it's why we love movies and books. Your personal story is powerful. You have a unique journey with moments of joy and grief, struggles and victories. Many people, even those who don't yet follow Jesus, can recall moments where they felt God's protection or presence. Sharing your story can help people to come to know the love of God and the power of Jesus to change lives! Listening to someone's story is a powerful act of love. And when you've listened, you may get the chance to share how you've experienced God's love, grace, and transformation. People can argue about beliefs and religion, but it's much harder to argue with a real-life story. If you are reading this and don't yet know Jesus, you can invite Him into your story. He knows your past, walks with you in the present, and can give you hope for the future.

## Three parts to your story

### 1. Before I knew Jesus:

What was your life like before you began following Jesus? What were your struggles, questions, fears, or longings? What was missing?

If you grew up in the Church, share about life before you became more committed to following Jesus.

### 2. How I came to know Jesus:

Who or what influenced you? How did God get your attention? What helped you take the step of faith?

If you grew up in the church, when or why did you become more serious about following Jesus?

### 3. Since following Jesus:

How has your life changed since? What's different now (even if life's still hard)?

What hope, peace, or purpose do you have? How do you relate to God today?

## My story template

### 1. Before I knew Jesus:

### 2. How I came to know Jesus:

### 3. Since following Jesus:



## Tips when sharing your story

- Listening to the stories of others is a powerful way to love!
- Aim to share your story briefly - even in just 3 minutes!
- Where possible, connect your story to what the other person is struggling with so it may help them.
- Be genuine and honest – mention struggles, not just victories.
- Take a moment to pray for the courage to share.
- Let Jesus be the hero of the story, and share how His forgiveness of sins and resurrection have personally impacted you!
- Share your story as if you're talking to a friend, not giving a speech. Use everyday language instead of church jargon.
- Remember, your story could be a significant part of someone else's spiritual journey.

## Examples of a brief faith story

### ***The story of a person who grew up in the church!***

**1. I grew up in a Christian home and was in church most Sundays.** I went to Sunday School, knew Bible stories, and even prayed before meals. But for a long time, my faith was more about going through the motions than knowing God personally.

**2. It wasn't until I was a teenager that Jesus became real to me.** I was at a youth camp when someone shared their story of struggling with fear and guilt — and how Jesus gave them peace and forgiveness. I realised I knew about Jesus, but I had never really surrendered my life to Him. That night, I prayed and told Him I wanted to follow Him for myself, not just because I grew up that way.

**3. Since then, my relationship with Jesus has changed everything.** I now know I'm loved and forgiven, not because of what I do, but because of what He did for me. He gives me peace when I'm anxious, strength when I'm weak, and purpose in everyday life. I'm still growing, but I know He's with me — and I'm so thankful my faith is now real and personal.

### ***Story of a person who didn't go to church growing up!***

**1. Before I knew Jesus,** I was constantly searching for meaning. I tried to find it in relationships, success, and even being a "good person," but deep down I always felt restless and unsure of who I really was. I looked fine on the outside, but inside I struggled with anxiety and a fear of not being enough.

**2. I came to know Jesus** when a friend invited me to church. I heard someone share how Jesus didn't just offer religion or rules — He offered forgiveness and a real relationship with God. For the first time, I understood that Jesus died for my sins and rose again so I could be made new. I decided to surrender to Him and ask Him into my life.

**3. Since following Jesus,** I've experienced real peace and freedom. I know I'm forgiven, loved, and I don't have to pretend or prove myself anymore. He's given me purpose, joy, and hope that lasts — even when life is hard. I still have struggles, but now I walk through them with Him. And I wouldn't trade that for anything.