

## Giving Your Personal Testimony

### Some things to keep in mind:

#### DOs:

Share your testimony with loving enthusiasm in the power of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18).

Be realistic. Christ does not eliminate all the problems of life, but enables you to live them out with peace and confidence.

Have someone else look it over, and welcome their comments, even if some of those are critical.

#### DON'Ts:

Don't use Christian "jargon" such as "saved, convicted, converted, born again, sin, repentance," which do not communicate truth to the average non-Christian.

Don't preach to people. Make it a testimony, not a "preachimony."

*Ask the Lord for wisdom and guidance as you write - James 1:5,6*

### A three-point outline:

#### **BEFORE - Your life before you knew Christ:**

*What was my life like?*

*What were my attitudes, needs, problems?*

*Around what did my life revolve the most?*

*To what source did I look for security, peace of mind, happiness?*

*In what ways were my activities unsatisfying?*

#### **HOW - Your conversion:**

*What motivated you to invite Christ to be your Lord and Savior?*

*When was the first time I heard the Gospel? How? (When was I exposed to true Christianity?)*

*What were my initial reactions?*

*When did my attitude begin to change? Why?*

*Specifically, how did you receive Christ and His forgiveness?*

#### **AFTER - Your new walk with Christ:**

*How did your life (attitudes, actions) begin to change after you trusted Christ?*

*Why am I motivated differently?*

*What other benefits have you experienced since becoming a Christian?*

If received Christ at an early age, probably put a greater emphasis on your life after receiving Christ.

#### **Example: Acts 26 - Paul tells his story to King Agrippa.**

Acts 26: 4-11 Before - "I lived as a Pharisee." (5)

Acts 26:12-18 How - "Who are you Lord?" (15)

Acts 26:19-23 After - "But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike." (22)