



## Creating Your Three-Word Testimony

### What's the value of a personal testimony?

- It's YOUR story of how God worked in YOUR life.
- Your story may be delivered in many venues.
- Your story tells how YOU came to faith in Christ and gives a concrete example of how God can work in THEIR lives, too.

### What makes a testimony effective?

- Your testimony is the story about how you came to know Jesus Christ personally and received His salvation by faith.
- It describes what your life was like before you came to faith in Christ.
- It explains how you initially trusted Christ.
- It tells of the difference Jesus has made since you've trusted Him.

## Building a Three-Word Testimony

This exercise helps you distill your testimony first into **three words**, then into **two to four simple sentences** per word. Use the attached worksheet to create your three-word testimony. Your testimony should last no more than 3-4 minutes.

### The Process

- Use the word bank in each section to help you think of the one word that most accurately describes your condition at each of the described stages in your life.
- Put those words in the small blue boxes on the worksheet.
- Create two to four simple explanatory sentences relating to each word. Write your sentences in the same box as each word.
- Share your testimony in no more than 3-4 minutes using these sentences. Keep your sentences short and concise. Alter them to your audience as needed.
- Weave the Gospel into your testimony. The Gospel is simply the Good News that Jesus Christ suffered and died for our sins, rose from the dead so that we could have life with God, and eternal life is given as a free gift to those who put their faith in Jesus Christ.

## Your Three Words

**First Word** – What were you like before you placed your faith in Christ? Focus on your spiritual or personal condition, not your behavior. Your testimony is not a list of bad vs. good behaviors. If you grew up in a Christian home and trusted Christ as a young person, say so. Then describe areas in which you needed to grow as a Christian.

Examples of words people have used:

Angry	Independent	Manipulative	Miserable
Hopeless	Empty	Addicted	Aimless
Restless	Immature	Insecure	Scared

**Second Word** – How did you come to place your faith in Christ? If you grew up in a Christian home and trusted Christ as a young person, use this word to lead into a time when you matured and were able to realize the full impact of the decision you made when you were young. It's also important to include a very short and clear statement of the Gospel. See the example testimony below.

Examples of words people have used:

Creation	Studied	Concert	Church
Bible	Friend	Trouble	Observation
Evangelist	Spouse	Loved	Media/Movie

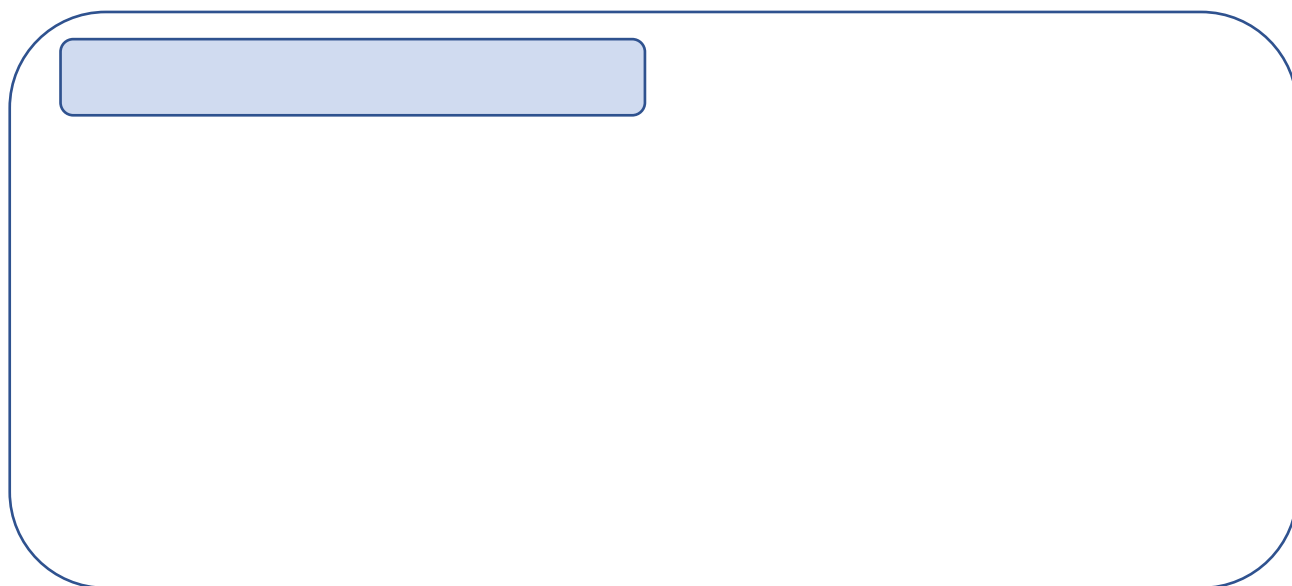
**Third Word** – What has trusting Christ helped you become or overcome? Describe your life, feelings, situation, or thoughts now that you have placed your faith in Christ.

Examples of words people have used:

Approachable	Peaceful	Generous	Loving
Confident	Caring	Leader	Purpose
Brave	Servant	Mentor	Certain

## Three-Word Testimony Worksheet


What were you like before You Placed Your Faith in Christ?  
Insert your first word in the blue box, then add the first two to four sentences of your testimony.



How Did You Come to Place Your Faith in Christ?  
Insert your next word and sentences.



What Has Trusting Christ Helped You Become or Overcome?  
Insert your last word and sentences.



## Example Three-Word Testimony

### **First Word** – Ambiguous

Although I believed in the existence of a God and even knew the story of Jesus, I didn't fully understand how it all fit together. I was *ambiguous* about the nature and character of Jesus as God and how He had provided a way for me to be reconciled to the very Creator of the universe!

### **Second Word** – Awakened

Through a series of conversations with new Christian friends in college, as well as exposure to some Christian music with meaningful lyrics, I came to understand Jesus as savior. I was *awakened* to the reality that Christ died for my sins and rose from the dead.

### **Third Word** – Assured

Now I am *assured* that through my trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation, I have an unbroken relationship with the very God who created the universe and everything in it. This relationship is for eternity, and my life with Him will not end when my time on earth does.