

TESTIMONY EVALUATION

Name:

Date:

(4 MINUTES) Time Used:

INTRODUCTION

This is a helpful tool for evaluating a person's testimony of how they came to trust Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord. It is two sided:

1. The person preparing their testimony can use it to develop their testimony (what to include, what communicates and what doesn't).
2. The mentor or person helping them can use it to evaluate the presentation through specifics (not random feelings or vague thoughts).

ABOUT THE TESTIMONY

A personal testimony is the story of the single-most important encounter in a person's life. It's the story of how, when, where and why they met God on His terms. Getting right with God IS A BIG DEAL. Confessing one's sins and having them forgiven and the soul cleansed of all unrighteousness IS A BIG DEAL. Starting a personal relationship with the living God IS A BIG DEAL. This life-changing experience and eternal consequence encounter IS A BIG DEAL! Therefore, the presentation and the presenter need to convey this through body language and voice inflection.

SECTIONS OF THE TESTIMONY

A. Before Christ

Your beliefs, influences, church history, or lack thereof before this decision.

B. How?

How did you get to the moment in which you made the decision to confess your sins and invite Jesus Christ into your life? Did someone talk one-on-one with you? Were you in church or a meeting? Were you skydiving? Were you robbing a store? How did you come to this decision? Did you pray out loud, cry, sing? What actually happened?

C. So What?

How have your life, values, perspectives, and actions changed? What is different? Are you now growing in your relationship with Him? Would you recommend that others face God on their sins, confess and turn the Lordship of their life over to Him?

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EVALUATION FORM

This form can be copied so that each person giving their testimony has a blue print of what to do, and so that the evaluator can make notes for the presenter for fine-tuning. When corrections are made (if any are noted...I had to do mine eight times!) and the testimony is given again, the evaluator should have a copy of the original to see how the improvements have been made.

1. Were church clichés omitted? Were there any terms used that a non-Bible person wouldn't understand?
Observations:
2. Was it clear what their pre-Christ life was like?
Observations:
3. Was it clear how they found out about Christ and their need for Him?
Observation:
4. Was it clear how they made the decision? (Were they alone, talking out loud, standing up, kneeling, crying, filling out an application? WHAT? How did the birth take place?)
Observations:
5. Was it clear how their life changed – both at the time of their birth and now?
Observations:
6. Was the presenter excited to tell the story? Did they own it? Was their body language agreeing with what they said? Was their eye contact and language volume appropriate for the setting (A group? One-on-one? A large room?)
Observations:
7. Would they recommend to those listening that they make the same decision?
Observations:

FINAL NOTES

One way to view the testimony is this: You are being asked to tell how you met God on His terms, while the person (people) listening knows *nothing* about Jesus dying for them. At the end of these four minutes, would the listener(s) know how to get right with God based solely on what you've shared?

**Remember, the goal is a FOUR-MINUTE testimony. If it's a clear four-minute testimony, then it can be expanded whenever needed.*