



Share Your Story

October 9, 2022

There is so much power in telling someone else your personal testimony.

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, He left these last words ringing in the ears of His followers:

Acts 1:8 – “but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

We see the Apostles standing up before crowds and preaching the gospel. But what did that look like for the average believer?

Acts 4:20 “For we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Peter and John are talking about what they had experienced.

The average believer can most effectively be a witness by simply telling their story of what Christ has done for them.

So many don't engage in spiritual conversations because they are afraid that they won't know what to say or how to answer difficult questions.

In John chapter 9, we read a remarkable story of a man born blind who was made to see by the miraculous healing power of Christ. It was a miracle that could not be kept a secret, so it spread far and wide and was rejected by religious leaders and significant figures.

The Jews did not believe what they had heard until asking the boy's parents: *“Is this your son, who you say was born blind? Then how does he now see?” [John 9:19]*

His parents answered, *“We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” [His parents said these things because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Him to be Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue.] [John 9:20–22]*

So, a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, *“Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” [John 9:24]*

The healed man answered, *“Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” [John 9:25]*

“Was blind, but now I see” — a famous line, worked into John Newton's famous hymn “Amazing Grace.”

John 9 is a key chapter for understanding how we as Christians, changed by the grace of God, can testify of Christ before the world's most powerful and educated people.

This man was less educated than they, and had been blind all of his life. He simply said with boldness, “Look, you may know some things I don't know, but I can see.” A miracle happened.

John 9:27 – “Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”

John 9:28–29 – “They reviled him, saying, ‘You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.’”

But the truth is they're not disciples of Moses. They think they are. They're not, because Jesus said in John 5:46, *“If you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote of Me.”*

So, who's really blind here?

We're watching a man whose sight is becoming clearer and clearer and clearer, and whose courage is becoming stronger and stronger, and we're watching these Pharisees reveal more and more blindness.

Jesus sought out the beggar and has a conversation in verses 35–38, after the Jewish leaders cast the beggar out.

John 9:34 – “‘You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?’ And they cast him out.”

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said,

John 9:35-38 — “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, Lord, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.”

There is power in a personal testimony. When you tell your story of what Christ has done for you, you are testifying, you are witnessing, you are planting seeds.

Remember what happens to those seeds?

Mark 4:26-28 — “And He was saying, “The kingdom of God is like a man who casts seed upon the soil; and he goes to bed at night and gets up by day, and the seed sprouts and grows—how, he himself does not know. The soil produces crops by itself; first the blade, then the head, then the mature grain in the head.”

SOME TIPS ON GIVING YOUR TESTIMONY:

Paul shares his testimony in Acts 26 to help us learn how to share our own testimony. There are four parts, or “acts,” in Paul’s testimony:

- 1. Life before Jesus Christ**
- 2. Coming to know Jesus Christ**
- 3. Life in Jesus Christ**
- 4. Inviting others to know Jesus Christ**

Act 1: My life before I knew Jesus Christ

Acts 26:4-5, 10-11

Act 2: How I came to know Jesus Christ

Acts 26:12-18

Act 3: My life in Jesus Christ

Acts 26:19-21

Act 4: Inviting them to know Christ

Acts 26:28

You have a story to tell. Tell your story regularly and naturally and leave the results to God.