

Level 1 Project Instructions

Rough Draft due date on 4.12 Calendar: Students will write their testimony according to the guidelines given by the *Sharing your Testimony* handout and seminar at the Fall Leadership Training Summit (also found at www.joyelgeneration.org under *4.12 Resources*). This resource includes an example of a testimony from scripture, the necessary parts that should be included in a testimony, and an outline to help them write their own testimony. Testimonies should be written in paragraph form (minimum of 2 paragraphs) and include Scripture. Students will then submit the first draft by the due date listed on the current year's 4.12 calendar. Male students will submit their drafts to Nic (nic@joyel.org) and female students will submit theirs to Emily (emily@joyel.org).

Rough Draft due date on 4.12 calendar: After submitting their testimony drafts, students will receive feedback from Nic or Emily and should revise and update their testimonies accordingly. They will submit these updated drafts by the due date listed on the current year's 4.12 calendar. Male students will submit their updated testimonies to Nic (nic@joyel.org) and female students will submit theirs to Emily (emily@joyel.org).

Final Project due date on 4.12 calendar: During the January Leadership Training Summit, students will practice sharing a summarized version of their written testimony. This is to help them prepare to tie their stories into a natural, everyday conversation. Sometime after the summit, students will share this summarized testimony with an unbeliever in casual conversation and then submit a written or verbal summary of the experience (minimum of 300 words) by the due date listed on the current year's 4.12 calendar. Written summaries may be in paragraph form or in bullet points. If the student prefers to submit a verbal version, this must be submitted as audio or video files. Male students will submit their experience summaries to Nic (nic@joyel.org) and female students will submit theirs to Emily (emily@joyel.org).

Joy El Generation

4.12 Leadership Training Program

Writing Your Testimony

What is a testimony? **Your story of what God has done in your life. An opportunity to bear witness to what God has done.**

Why share your testimony? **Praise God for what he has done, Give others opportunity to know Christ**

What do you think should be a part of a testimony?

- **Life before Christ**
- **How you began a relationship with Christ**
- **How is your life different because of Christ**
- **How can others have the same relationship**

If you wanted to find an example of a testimony, where would you look?
Acts 22, Acts 26

Read Acts 26:1-29

V 2 - How did Paul feel about the opportunity to share his testimony?
Fortunate! It is a privilege to tell what God has done!

What did Paul include in his testimony?

V 4-11 - **Life before knowing Christ, his history.**

V 12-18 – **How he came to have a relationship with Christ.**

V 19-23 – **His life since meeting Christ personally.**

V 24-29 – **Offered those who were listening an opportunity to meet Jesus.**

V 23 – Scripture:

Isaiah 53:3-6 "...he was despised and rejected by men...familiar with suffering";

Isaiah 49:6 "...I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

We need to be prepared also! Read: 1 Peter 3:15-17 (...Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.) 2 Tim 4:1-5. (...Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season)

Your Testimony needs to include:

1. Life before Christ
 - A. A brief history: **It is your story!** Tell about where you're from and who you were.
 - B. What happened in your life to show Christ was a solution to your needs?

2. How you began a relationship with Jesus
 - A. What was the situation? (where, when, who)
 - B. How did Jesus become a part of your life?
 - **Explain the process!** (What does it mean to begin a relationship with Jesus?)
 - **Include Scripture** to support your decision
3. How is your life different because of Christ?
 - A. How have you dealt with the **highs and lows of life**?
 - B. What excites you about having a relationship with Jesus
 - C. Share a **verse or passage** of Scripture that has impacted you.
4. How can those listening have the same relationship?

Explain how to **begin a relationship** with Jesus in your own words.
Share 4 Chapter Gospel → Creation – Fall – Rescue – Restoration

 - A. Admit to yourself that you are a sinner and are separated from God.
 - B. Believe Jesus died for your sins and has the power to remove them.
 - C. Confess your sins and ask for forgiveness.
 - D. Declare Christ as your Savior and Lord.
5. Use Scripture!

Helpful Hints for writing your Testimony

- I. When you read/present it, it should be 3 ½ to 5 minutes long.
- II. Don't use words or phrases an unbeliever would not be familiar with.
I.E. Got saved, Born Again, Whiter than snow, Went forward, Washed in the blood, etc.
- III. Don't just use your favorite verse. Use scripture that fits into your story.
- IV. Type it out – you will use it throughout your life and it is easier to update

Helpful Hints when you share your Testimony

- I. Maintain eye contact. Be familiar with your story so you don't have to read it.
- II. Speak clearly.
- III. Don't speak too fast.
- IV. Change the tone of your voice.

Joy El Generation

4.12 Leadership Training Program

Writing Your Testimony

What is a testimony?

Why share your testimony?

What do you think should be a part of a testimony?

-
-
-
-

If you wanted to find an example of a testimony, where would you look?

Read Acts 26:1-29

V 2 - How did Paul feel about the opportunity to share his testimony?

What did Paul include in his testimony?

V 4-11 – _____

V 12-18 – _____

V 19-23 – _____

V 24-29 – _____

V 23 – Scripture:

Isaiah 53:3-6

Isaiah 49:6

We need to be prepared also! Read: 1 Peter 3:15-17; 2 Tim 4:1-5.

Turning in a Testimony Draft:

November 6th, Rough Draft Due (rachel@joyel.org for girls, nic@joyel.org for guys to submit project)

January 8th, Final project due (rachel@joyel.org for girls, nic@joyel.org for guys to submit project)

Your Testimony needs to include:

6. Life before Christ
 - A. A brief history: _____ Tell about where you're from and who you were.
 - B. What happened in your life to show Christ was a solution to your needs?
7. How you began a relationship with Jesus
 - A. What was the situation? (where, when, who)
 - B. How did Jesus become a part of your life?
 - _____! (What does it mean to begin a relationship with Jesus?)
 - _____ to support your decision
8. How is your life different because of Christ?
 - A. How have you dealt with the _____?
 - B. What excites you about having a relationship with Jesus
 - C. Share a _____ of Scripture that has impacted you.
9. How can those listening have the same relationship?

Explain how to _____ with Jesus in your own words.

Share 4 Chapter Gospel → Creation – Fall – Rescue – Restoration

 - A. Admit to yourself that you are a sinner and are separated from God.
 - B. Believe Jesus died for your sins and has the power to remove them.
 - C. Confess your sins and ask for forgiveness.
 - D. Declare Christ as your Savior and Lord.
10. Use Scripture!

Helpful Hints for writing your Testimony

- V. When you read/present it, it should be 3 ½ to 5 minutes long.
- VI. Don't use words or phrases an unbeliever would not be familiar with.
I.E. Got saved, Born Again, Whiter than snow, Went forward, Washed in the blood, etc.
- VII. Don't just use your favorite verse. Use scripture that fits into your story.
- VIII. Type it out – you will use it throughout your life and it is easier to update

Helpful Hints when you share your Testimony

- V. Maintain eye contact. Be familiar with your story so you don't have to read it.
- VI. Speak clearly.
- VII. Don't speak too fast.
- VIII. Change the tone of your voice.