



Writing Your Story of Grace

Because each Christian's ability to communicate how they entered into a relationship with Christ is vitally important, we want everyone who wishes to pursue membership on the launch team at Mercy Hill to write out their personal testimony.

Your testimony is the story of how you came into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Each person's story is unique and no two are the same.

While you have the freedom to write your testimony in any form that you deem appropriate, many have found it easier to write their story of grace by breaking down their testimony into the following three stages:

1. **Before you trusted Christ:** Describe your value system, motivations and life-style prior to your conversion. Identify the events and circumstances that caused you to consider Jesus Christ as the solution to your spiritual need and ultimately led to your decision to follow him. In some cases this process may have taken place over a long period of time.
2. **Circumstances surrounding you placing trust in Christ:** Please include the specific steps that you took to become a Christian. As much as possible, try to avoid religious "testimology," church clichés, or overly theological jargon. Some examples might include "justification," "born again," "asked Jesus into my heart," "washed in the blood," etc. By avoiding such jargonistic phrases, you will be better prepared to communicate your story more clearly and authentically to your friends and to people who ask.
3. **How your life has changed as a result:** Describe the difference that Christ has made in your thinking, motivation, values, and actions. For some this may be a dramatic change from the "before" description. For others who accepted Christ at an early age, this step will allow you to think through and describe how your life is different than what it could have been and to describe the transformation that is continuing to take place in your life. In either case, please state what assurances you have today that your sins are forgiven and that you have the promise of eternal life.