

baptism >> TAKING THE NEXT STEP IN FOLLOWING JESUS

Baptism is "Going Public" with your faith in Jesus. Therefore, we want to help you write your story.

TELLING YOUR STORY

At Temple, your testimony will be read by someone before your baptism. This will be an opportunity for you to share when and how you turned your life over to Jesus Christ. You can also thank family, friends and others who might have been instrumental in your decision.

How to write your testimony.

Your "testimony" is simply the story of how you came to faith in Christ. It should include the following elements (which can be one or two sentences each).

- (1) What your life was like before you were a Christ-follower.
- (2) When and how you came to faith in Jesus Christ.
- (3) Any special or interesting circumstances surround your "conversion." (4) A declaration that you have committed your life to Jesus Christ.
- (5) A thank you to anyone who helped you begin a relationship with Christ.

Now, that sounds like a lot of information - but really, it's just a few sentences. On the next page, we've provided some room for you to write your answers to these questions. On the back, you'll find a blank area to write out your actual testimony using the answers to these questions.

SAMPLE TESTIMONIES

Sample Adult Testimony

My name is Tracy Smith. A few weeks ago while listening to the message I realized that I was going to die as a sinner. I needed Jesus Christ to save me from my sin. I asked Jesus to forgive me and save me. He is my Savior, and I have committed my life to Him as my Lord. Im excited about following Christ, and about what He is doing with my life. I want to thank the Pastor, and my husband, for praying for me and helping me commit my life to Christ.

Sample Child Testimony

Hi! My name is Johnny Doe, and Im 10 years old. The other night I was talking with my mom about Jesus. She told me how everybody sins and that Jesus saves people from their sins. I said I wanted to be saved from my sins. My mom and dad prayed with me, and I told Jesus I was sorry for my sins. Now Jesus is in charge of my life. I want to thank my mom and dad for talking to me about Jesus and helping me understand what it means to be a Christ-follower

(1) What was your life like before you were a Christ-follower?

Hints: Read Romans 3:23. Make it personal.

(2) When and how did you come to faith in Jesus Christ?

Hints: Use a specific date if you can. What did you pray or talk about? Who did you speak with and why?

(3) Were there special or interesting circumstances surrounding your "conversion?"

Hints: Medical condition? Family crisis? A unique place or time? Something interesting God showed you?

(5) Write down the names of those who helped you begin a relationship with Christ. Hint: Friends, mom or dad, a minister or pastor—this is optional.
WRITE YOUR BAPTISM TESTIMONY Now that you've thought through your answers to the question above, combine them into a simple paragraph below. Be sure to begin by stating your first and last name.

(4) Give a declaration that you have committed your life to Jesus Christ.