

NEXT STEPS⁷

FAITH ESSENTIALS: WHAT'S YOUR TESTIMONY?

SELF STUDY QUESTIONS

What testimonies has God blessed me with? Are there any still in the making? Are there any common themes running throughout the testimonies in my life?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

In our circle of influence, what testimonies are we unaware of? How can we increase the testimonies that we have to share?

MAIN NOTES

World's Definition Vs Biblical Definition

In the world, "testimony" is used in a judicial sense as an oral, written, or spoken statement given in a court of law emphasizing a report, record, or account.

As a Biblical definition, "testimony" means the story or details of our life retold with the power to spiritually impact another's life. It focuses on God's power in our life versus a physical, dramatic, or mental trauma we may have experienced, as has the power to transform someone's life.

Jesus And The Samaritan Woman

Jesus is not worried about cultural rules or peoples' messed up lives. He wants to get involved in our lives in order for us to experience Him and share with others.

Testimonies bring people to Jesus. Many people believed in Jesus because of the Samaritan woman's testimony of Jesus in John 4:39.

Triumph Through Testimony

"They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink back from death." Revelation 12:11

Joshua 4:5-7 tells us to record what the Lord has done so we and others can see, bringing glory to God.

All testimonies should focus on the redemptive nature, story, grace, and good work of God in us. The transformational power of God's work in us is what gives testimonies their strength.

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven.” Matthew 5:16

We need to raise our expectations of the work that God is doing in our lives. He has prepared great things for us to do, and we should ask Him to make it possible for us to do them. “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10

Different Types of Testimony

A salvation testimony is the retelling of the details of how we came to believe in Christ.

A miracle testimony is the retelling of God’s supernatural intervention in a tangible way. Jesus healed a demon possessed man in Luke 8 and told him to go tell everyone what had happened.

A repentance testimony comes about through reading a Biblical truth, hearing some encouraging words from a friend, mentor, or pastor and then letting it change our heart and the way we live and believe.

DAILY LIVING

The power of God is what makes a testimony effective. God has worked in your life, so you have a testimony. Don’t discount what He has done simply because you may not have been miraculously healed or pulled out of rock bottom circumstances. The power of God to raise us up and keep us from harmful things is just as mighty as it is to pull us out of them. Don’t be ashamed of your testimony. It is the power of God working through you. Somebody needs to know that since He has done it before, He can do it again. Share your testimonies and watch God do more with them than you could possibly imagine, all for His glory.

PRAYER POINT

Take a moment to go through the Self Study and Group Discussion questions again. Ask God to point out a key truth that He wants you to focus on. Thank God for the testimonies that He has given you already. Ask God what testimony He still wants to give you.

PERSONAL NOTES