

Life Notes *Sharing Your Faith with Pastor Justin*

7. Telling Your Story

First Peter 3:15 tells us to “always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” My hope is that this week’s notes will help you learn to do that very thing. When you tell your Grace Story or testimony three things will happen. Your friends will be interested, and they will be able to relate to it. Also, your story is hard to argue with because it happened to you!

When telling a story, we must organize it so it makes sense and follows a logical train of thought. Paul did a great job of telling his own spiritual story in the Acts 26. He used three handles or main sections.

First Handle: **BC** (Before Christ) Acts 26:4-11

- Paul’s life growing up
- He did everything to oppose the name of Jesus (v.9)

Second Handle: **The Cross** Acts 26:12-18

- Paul relates how he came to Christ.
- “As I was on the road, I saw a light from heaven...and I heard a voice.” (vv.13-14)

Third Handle: **AD** (Anno Domini – in the year of our Lord)
Acts 26:19-23

- Paul’s life since coming to Christ
- “So then ...I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.” (v.19)

Concluding Question: **Do you believe the prophets?** (v.27)

Unifying Theme: **Paul’s Intense Passion for serving God** (first without Christ, then as his follower)

Six Questions to Help You Develop Your Story

BC – Before Christ

1. What was your early spiritual background, and how did it effect you as you grew up – your feelings, attitudes, actions and relationships?
2. What caused you to begin to consider following Christ?

The Cross – When you met Christ

3. What realization did you come to finally that motivated you to receive Christ?
4. Specifically, how did you receive Christ?

AD – After Christ

5. How did your life begin to change after you trusted Christ?
6. What other benefits have you experienced since becoming a Christian? Especially think of the ones that would best relate to the person you are talking to at the moment.

At the least, I hope this will help you to begin thinking about how to communicate your testimony to those whom you are already in relationship. At the most, I trust this will give you some tracks to run on in order to clearly communicate the greatest story you will ever tell!