

JUST WALK ACROSS THE ROOM

TELLING YOUR GOD STORY

Handout

What makes a good GOD story?

- ✓ Tell the truth
- ✓ Tell what type of person you were before finding Jesus?
- ✓ Tell about your encounter with Jesus.
- ✓ Tell how you were changed by finding Jesus?

What to AVOID!

- 1) Long winded stories - Keep it short - around 100 words
- 2) Fuzziness
- 3) Religioneze - Church words most people won't understand
- 4) Superiority

HOW TO WRITE YOUR STORY:

- 1) Make a list for each of the 3 sections -
Events, thoughts, possible wording
- 2) Boil each section down to 1 or 2 main ideas
- 3) Count the words and refine it
- 4) Hone it....Tell it to other Christians
- 5) Refine it even more...make it clearer!
- 6) Practice, Practice, Practice!

Samples:

1

Growing up my family had lots of religion and church.

Yet Jesus was never personal to me.

As I lived life my way, Jesus kept pursuing me anyway.

When I finally saw how self centered,

sinful and empty my life really was,

I surrendered my heart to Jesus and his plan for my life

With Jesus in control of my life, I am at peace.

I know my sins are completely forgiven.

Now I have a relationship with this awesome loving God who pursued me.

It keeps growing to this day.

His plan was much better than mine!

2

For years, I felt empty. I had a hole that I needed to fill,
so I searched for things that could fill that hole: a new house; children, new friends, clothes, a new job...
My emptiness would be filled for a short time, but I never found the "it" that kept the hole filled.

One day I heard a message about having a relationship with Jesus.

Once I understood, accepted, and grew in my relationship with him,
my emptiness was finally filled...for good.

Today I am no longer searching for things to fill my life.

95 words

3

I used to look for acceptance. I used drugs and alcohol to make me feel like I was somebody.
I thought God had put me here as a cruel joke.

But then I met Christ. He got me off of drugs, off of alcohol, and he made me feel worthwhile.

I now know what happens is actually like. The void in my heart is gone.

I now know I have many reasons for being here...one is to share my story to give others hope.

My days are no longer miserable; life actually means something to me now.

98 Words

4

I was angry and depressed all my life, thinking that the world revolved around me
and I wasn't getting my due. I was cynical and isolated.

After finding Christ, though, I felt an amazing love and acceptance for the first time.

I began to be liked for who I was by the people around me, and my whole life changed.

I came to know the joy of relating authentically with people..

opening up with honest and truthfulness about my life.

80 words

5

My life was filled with shame and fear.

I was all tied up inside and isolated. Loneliness led me to a place of hopelessness.

But then I met Jesus.

Now I am free from my self-inflicted prison of fear and shame.

I am forgiven and loved!

I am peaceful about who I am and who God is making me to be.

The void inside is now filled with joy...

joy in knowing that I am a precious child of God.

77 words

6

I used to struggle under the burdens of a challenging career, marriage and growing family.

I tried to meet these obligations with my own efforts and sufficiency.

As a result, I was stressed out, over worked, frustrated, angry, fearful, insecure,
anxious, competitive and exhausted...all the time!

The challenges still exist, but Jesus eased my burdens and is sufficient where I am deficient.

Now I focus on what matters to God, and he takes care of what matters to me.

I face life calmly and confidently while enjoying God's wisdom and his undeserved blessing.

94 words

1st Draft - Thoughts

MY BEFORE: 1st Draft Describe what I was like before I met Jesus

MY CONVERSION: 1st Draft Describe how I met Jesus

MY AFTER: 1st Draft Describe what I am like now because I met Jesus

2nd Draft - Rough Sentences

MY BEFORE: 2nd Draft Boil it down to 1 or 2 main items...

MY CONVERSION: 2nd Draft Boil it down to 1 or 2 main items...

MY AFTER: 2nd Draft Boil it down to 1 or 2 main items...

HOW MANY WORDS?

3rd Draft - Refine It

MY BEFORE: Refine it Again

MY CONVERSION: Refine it Again

MY AFTER: Refine it Again

HOW MANY WORDS?

Share with someone and refine it again

Refine it again and write it out

My Before

My Conversion

My After

HOW MANY WORDS?

Now PRACTICE... PRACTICE... PRACTICE