

Module 3: Telling Your Story

MODULE 1 REVIEW: WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

- Discuss with a mentor, “What is the Gospel?”
- How should we respond to the Gospel with our head? With our heart?

MODULE 2 REVIEW: WHAT IS BAPTISM?

- Discuss with a mentor, answering the question, “What is baptism?”
- What are the spiritual realities that baptism represents?
- Why do we baptize *believers*? Why do we baptize by *immersion*?
- Who gets the praise for a believer’s baptism?

TELLING YOUR STORY

Why tell your story (or testimony)?

1. To *glorify God* for what he has done in saving you!
2. To *encourage* other believers as they hear about what God has done in your life.
3. To *point people to Christ*. As you tell your story, you are showing how the Gospel has saved you and changed you—and how that can also be true for them! When you are baptized, you are verbally and visually proclaiming the Gospel!

When will you tell your story?

1. While you are writing it.
2. With elders—in an interview.
3. With the congregation—at your baptism. It is important for the entire church that as many people as possible are able to witness your baptism and hear your story! God will encourage and strengthen the church through your testimony!

How to tell your story.

Use the Bible to help you tell your story.

Tell your story in 3 parts:

1. *Your life before Christ saved you.*
 1. Answer the question: Why did you need to be saved? How did you come to realize you needed a Savior?
 1. Paul tells part of his story in 1 Timothy 1:13 and Acts 26:9-11.
 2. Romans 3:23: “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” How was this true for you in your life? How did you come to realize that reality?
2. *How you met Jesus:*
 1. What has Jesus done to save you, forgive your sins, and give you eternal life (relationship with God forever)? (Again, use the Bible to tell the story of the Gospel!)
 2. Paul tells of a life-shattering encounter in Acts 26:12-18.
 3. Every real encounter with Jesus is life-changing, even if it might seem boring to you.
 4. Look to articulate the Gospel simply and clearly (e.g., Romans 6:23).
 1. Example: Acts 26:18. “Darkness to light”... “power of Satan to God”... “forgiveness of sins”... “a place among God’s people”...

5. Look to talk about how you *personally* came to realize these benefits of salvation, see Christ as your treasure, and put your faith in him.
 1. It might have been a particular moment in time.
 2. It might have been a process that occurred over a long period of time.

3. *Your life since meeting Christ.*
 1. How has your life been different since Jesus saved you?
 2. Acts 26:19-23
 3. How have you seen your attitudes, behaviors, desires, thoughts, and words change for good since putting your faith in Christ?
 4. What are some ways—including baptism—that you desire to please & obey Jesus in response to what he has done.
 5. What does Jesus mean to you?

Conclusion

1. Tell your story in **three** parts, answering **three** questions:
 1. What was your life like before Christ saved you?
 2. How did you meet Jesus?
 3. How has your life been different since Jesus saved you?
2. Begin by writing your story out.
3. Read it to a trusted mentor, parent, or friend. This will give you a chance to practice it and get feedback on it.
4. Pray!

Next Steps:

1. Write your story.
2. Communicate with us that you would like to pursue baptism.
3. We'll set up a time to meet with you and go from there!