



HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH
SUNDAY EVENING SEMINAR

What's Your Story?

SESSION 4

Focus

In this session, we will identify why our _____ story is important, and how to use our _____ story to assist in reaching others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Discovery

The Importance of Your Story

1. Our friends are _____ interested _____.
2. Our friends can _____ relate _____ to it.
3. It is _____ hard to argue with _____.

Paul's Story - Acts 26: The Three Contact Points

How to Organize Your Story

Points of Contact	1 BC <u>religious</u> <u>pharisee</u>	3 > <u>conversion</u> (cross)	5 AD <u>preacher</u> <u>witness</u>
Verses	2 <u>4-11</u>	4 <u>12-18</u>	6 <u>19-23</u>

Concluding Question	7 <u>vs 27 "Do you believe the prophets?"</u> _____
Unifying Theme	8 <u>zeal for serving God</u> _____

Writing Your Story

BC - Before Christ

<p>1. WHERE WERE YOU SPIRITUALLY BEFORE RECEIVING CHRIST, AND HOW DID THAT AFFECT YOUR FEELINGS, ATTITUDES, ACTIONS, AND RELATIONSHIPS?</p>	<p>Outline</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>2. WHAT CAUSED YOU TO BEGIN CONSIDERING GOD/CHRIST AS A SOLUTION TO YOUR NEEDS?</p>	<p>Outline</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Writing Your Story

> - Conversion

<p>3. WHAT REALIZATION DID YOU COME TO THAT FINALLY MOTIVATED YOU TO RECEIVE CHRIST?</p>	<p>4. SPECIFICALLY, HOW DID YOU RECEIVE CHRIST?</p>
<p>Outline</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Outline</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Writing Your Story

AD - After Conversion

<p>5. HOW DID YOUR LIFE BEGIN TO CHANGE AFTER YOU TRUSTED CHRIST?</p>	<p>Outline</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>6. WHAT OTHER BENEFITS HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED SINCE BECOMING A CHRISTIAN? (ESPECIALLY THINK OF THOSE BENEFITS THAT WOULD BEST RELATE TO THE PEOPLE ON YOUR IMPACT LIST)</p>	<p>Outline</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Writing Your Story

7. Concluding Question: Can you relate to any of this?

8. Unifying Theme:

Story Tips

Theme

- **The central issue in your life that shows the contrast in your spiritual outlook before and after knowing Christ.**

Middle Contact Point

- **You need to keep it simple, clear, and repeatable.**

Conclusion

- **End with a question or statement that requires a response.**

Scripture

- **Think of one key verse that may deal with the situation or that helped you understand.**

Language

- **Your words are important. Avoid Christian cliches or confusing terms.**

Length

- **Be brief and to the point.**

Sequence

- **With practice, you will be able to start and end at any one of the contact points, depending on the situation.**

Putting Others First

- **Keep your focus on your friend.**
- **Emphasize those aspects of your story that will relate to his or her interests.**

Exercise

1. Refer back to your answers to the six questions, and circle the key words to each of your answers.
2. Write those key words in an outline form in the space provided in the column to the right of your answers to the six questions.

Activity: Practice Telling Your Story

Three Contact Points:

- BC - clearly explained
- The Cross - was repeatable
- AD - clearly explained
- Theme - resolved a central idea
- Conclusion - asked for a response
- Scripture - used appropriate passage
- Language - natural and clear
- Length - was within five minutes

Observations

What worked well?

Areas for improvement:

