

## "MY STORY" WORKSHEET

When Paul shared his faith in Jesus Christ, he often shared his personal experience, his testimony, his story (see Acts 26). Being able to verbalize your experience of knowing Christ to another person will help them better understand the Good News you believe in.

Your story should be 3-5 minutes long and should address these three areas:

- Before you met Christ
- How you came to know Christ
- Your life since you've met Christ

Write a paragraph answering each of these points:

1. Describe your life before you received Christ—your attitudes, your problems, the things you were searching for, etc... (But don't dig out all your garbage, it isn't necessary.)
2. Explain how and why you became interested in knowing God personally. Explain clearly how you received Christ. Even sharing the words you used when you prayed to receive Christ will help others understand how they can pray to receive Christ.
3. Describe your life since you have received Christ- your attitudes, your perspective on life and on your problems. In what areas has Christ specifically made a difference? What are some areas of spiritual growth? How are you changing? What do you still wrestle with?

Helpful Hints:

- Center your story on Jesus, not on yourself- He is the one who is great.
- Use a theme in your story. Relate some of the needs Christ has met in point 3 to the needs you had before you received Christ in point 1.
- If you received Christ at a very young age and point 1 is not nearly as defined, then emphasize your Christian growth.
- Be creative! Help illustrate your experience with a story, the words of a song, or maybe a theme from a movie.
- Begin with an attention-getting sentence.
- Give enough details to arouse interest - just don't make them up!
- Use one or two scriptures regarding eternal life.
- Finish with a strong conclusion relating back to the first sentence.
- Avoid "churchy" words and phrases: saved, born again, blessed, praise the Lord, sanctified, etc.
- Don't be too wordy or beat around the bush.
- Don't mention church denominations- these are not important.
- Don't give impression the Christian life is a bed of roses.
- Share your story with another Christian friend, your parents, or your youth leaders. Ask others to clarify your communication.

Once you have written out and thought through your story, you will be able to share it with anyone, at any time!

*"...always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have..." I Peter 3:15*