

How To Take Care Of Your Testimony

Under New Management: 8-11

Tim Gill- March 23, 2014

But my life is worth nothing unless I use it for doing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus--the work of telling (testifying to) others the Good News about God's wonderful kindness and love.

Acts 20:24 (NLT)

Why should I be a good manager of my story?

1. Because the Bible tells me to take care of my testimony.

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if you are asked about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it.

1 Peter 3:15 (NLT)

2. Because God can use my story to spread the good news.

Return home and tell how much God has done for you. So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

Luke 8:39 (NIV)

Brothers and sisters, I want you to know that all that has happened to me has helped to spread the Good News. ¹³ All the Roman guards and all the others here know that I am in prison for serving Christ.

Philippians 1:12-13 (NLT)

3. Because sharing my story encourages others.

This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all. ¹⁶ But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.

1 Timothy 1:15-16 (NLT)

Three elements of a good testimony...

1. A good testimony comes from preparation.

Be pleasant and hold their interest when you speak the message. Choose your words carefully and be ready to give answers to anyone who asks questions.

Colossians 4:6 (CEV)

The B.E.S.T. way to tell my story... (From Acts 22, 26)

B- Before. (Acts 26:4,9-11)

- o I talk about what it was like before I became a Christian.

E- Events. (Acts 26:12-15)

- o I talk about the moments that led me to Christ.

S- Salvation. (Acts 26:16,19; 22:10-16)

- o I talk about what I did to be saved.

T- Today. (Acts 26:22-23, 28-29)

- o I talk about how my life is different today.

2. A good testimony is supported by a good example.

- Nothing kills my story like a bad example.

And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind. Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching.

Titus 2:7 (NLT)

Keep a close watch on how you live and on your teaching. Stay true to what is right for the sake of your own salvation and the salvation of those who hear you.

1 Timothy 4:16 (NLT)

- I give my testimony with my lips and my life.

But keep the Lord Christ holy in your hearts. Always be ready to answer everyone who asks you to explain about the hope you have. ¹⁶ But answer them in a gentle way with respect. Keep your conscience clear. Then people will see the good way you live as followers of Christ, and those who say bad things about you will be ashamed of what they said.

1 Peter 3:15-16 (ERV)

3. A good testimony gives God the credit.

But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike...

Acts 26:22a (NIV)

All of you who fear God, come and listen, and I will tell you what he has done for me.

Psalms 66:16 (NCV)