

# YOUR STORY

## What chapter are you in?

Chapter 1 Before Relationship with Christ	Chapter 2 How I Began a Relationship with Christ	Chapter 3 Growing in my relationship with Christ
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## Be ready to tell your story

**1 Peter 3:15** But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect

### Chapter 1: Before Your Relationship with Christ

- What is your family like  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Any unmet needs that Christ ended up filling  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Any ways that you tried to meet those needs apart from Christ  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Chapter 2: How I Began a Relationship with Christ

- What caused you to think about a relationship with Christ?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Explain what Christ did that allows you to be saved  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What was the main reason you decided to become a Christian?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Chapter 3: Growing in my relationship with Christ

- How has your life changed since you began following Christ?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What would your life be like without Christ?  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### *TIPS:*

- Have a couple different versions ready
  - 30 second (1 highlight from before/during/after)
  - 1 minute (1 highlight from before, 2 during, 2 after)
  - 5 minute (the whole thing!)
- Don't use Christian "lingo" or vocabulary
- Don't over-emphasize how "bad you were"
- It is OK to let them know everything isn't "perfect"

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## Acts 22:1-21—Paul's Story

1“My dear brothers and fathers, listen carefully to what I have to say before you jump to conclusions about me.” 2When they heard him speaking Hebrew, they grew even quieter. No one wanted to miss a word of this. He continued, 3“I am a good Jew, born in Tarsus in the province of Cilicia, but educated here in Jerusalem under the exacting eye of Rabbi Gamaliel, thoroughly instructed in our religious traditions. And I’ve always been passionately on God’s side, just as you are right now. 4“I went after anyone connected with this ‘Way,’ went at them hammer and tongs, ready to kill for God. I rounded up men and women right and left and had them thrown in prison. 5You can ask the Chief Priest or anyone in the High Council to verify this; they all knew me well. Then I went off to our brothers in Damascus, armed with official documents authorizing me to hunt down the followers of Jesus there, arrest them, and bring them back to Jerusalem for sentencing.

6“As I arrived on the outskirts of Damascus about noon, a blinding light blazed out of the skies 7and I fell to the ground, dazed. I heard a voice: ‘Saul, Saul, why are you out to get me?’ 8“ ‘Who are you, Master?’ I asked. “He said, ‘I am Jesus the Nazarene, the One you’re hunting down.’ 9My companions saw the light, but they didn’t hear the conversation. 10“Then I said, ‘What do I do now, Master?’ “He said, ‘Get to your feet and enter Damascus. There you’ll be told everything that’s been set out for you to do.’

11And so we entered Damascus, but nothing like the entrance I had planned—I was blind as a bat and my companions had to lead me in by the hand. 12“And that’s when I met Ananias, a man with a sterling reputation in observing our laws—the Jewish community in Damascus is unanimous on that score. 13He came and put his arm on my shoulder. ‘Look up,’ he said. I looked, and found myself looking right into his eyes—I could see again! 14“Then he said, ‘The God of our ancestors has hand-picked you to be briefed on his plan of action. You’ve actually seen the Righteous Innocent and heard him speak. 15You are to be a key witness to everyone you meet of what you’ve seen and heard. 16So what are you waiting for? Get up and get yourself baptized, scrubbed clean of those sins and personally acquainted with God.’ 17“Well, it happened just as Ananias said. After I was back in Jerusalem and praying one day in the Temple, lost in the presence of God, 18I saw him, saw God’s Righteous Innocent, and heard him say to me, ‘Hurry up! Get out of here as quickly as you can. None of the Jews here in Jerusalem are going to accept what you say about me.’ 19“At first I objected: ‘Who has better credentials? They all know how obsessed I was with hunting out those who believed in you, beating them up in the meeting places and throwing them in jail. 20And when your witness Stephen was murdered, I was right there, holding the coats of the murderers and cheering them on. And now they see me totally converted. What better qualification could I have?’ 21“But he said, ‘Don’t argue. Go. I’m sending you on a long journey to outsider non-Jews.’ ”

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