

## How Can I Share My Story?

**Read:** Acts 26:1-29

**Main idea:** In every circumstance or situation, God provides us with opportunities to turn everyday conversations into gospel conversations by using our personal testimony as a witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

**Key Verses:** “But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you...” (26:16 ESV)

### Key Principles:

- It is important for us to address unbelievers respectfully so that we may lay the foundation for sharing the gospel with them.
- When you are telling others what your life was like before Christ, it is important to exalt Jesus and not yourself.
- Remember that the gospel includes the perfect life, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ in the place of sinful man.
- To be a faithful witness for Christ we need to rely upon God for power and grace.
- Whenever you are sharing the gospel, be prepared for rejection and ridicule from those who do not believe.
- Always remember to call for a response to the gospel when you are sharing what Christ has done in your life.

### Discussion:

1. How does Paul’s testimony in Acts 26 highlight the crucifixion and magnify the resurrection?
2. How does Paul’s speech in Acts 26 show Christ as the fulfillment of Jewish hope?
3. How does Paul speak both respectfully and boldly to Agrippa? Was Agrippa deserving of that respect? Why does this matter?
4. What do modern believers share in common with Paul’s commission? What can we learn from Paul’s story in Acts 26?
5. How might remembering Festus’s response to Paul in 26:24 help prepare us to do evangelism?
6. In a paragraph or two, summarize your own story. Then identify a thread in the story that could help you transition smoothly into a presentation of the gospel.

### Prayer:

- Focus on the salvation of your unbelieving friends, neighbors, coworkers and family.
- Pray:
  - o That God would reveal to you the many opportunities you have to share your story.
  - o That you would have boldness to take advantage of those opportunities.
  - o That God would use you as a conduit for His message of redemption.

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Acts 26:1-29

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| <b>I.</b>   | <b><u>Who</u> were you <u>before</u> you met Christ?</b>           | <b>26:1-11</b>  |
| 1.          | Share your <u>beginnings</u> .                                     | 26:1-8          |
| 2.          | Share your <u>failures</u> .                                       | 26:9-11         |
| <b>II.</b>  | <b><u>How</u> did you <u>come</u> to faith in Christ?</b>          | <b>26:12-18</b> |
| 1.          | Tell them <u>who</u> <u>led</u> you to Christ.                     | 26:12-15        |
| 2.          | Tell them <u>how</u> you <u>responded</u> to Christ.               | 26:16-18        |
| <b>III.</b> | <b><u>What</u> are you like <u>now</u> that you follow Christ?</b> | <b>26:19-29</b> |
| 1.          | <u>Explain</u> your journey of <u>faith</u> in Christ.             | 26:19-23        |
| 2.          | <u>Encourage</u> them to <u>respond</u> to Christ.                 | 26:24-29        |

NEXT WEEK:

**Why is the Church Important?**

Romans 12:9-21