

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



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5 TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED

- 1 Ask God for help.** Before you write out and share your story, ask God for the words to say and insight about how to say it so that God can work through you.
- 2 You be you.** Write out your three-party story the way you speak. Don't try to sound like someone else. It's your story--just be you!
- 3 Keep it real.** Don't sugarcoat or over dramatize your story. Tell the good, the bad, and the ugly just the way that it happened. Your authenticity will connect with others.
- 4 Keep it short.** Aim to keep your story to just a few minutes long. At that length it's easy to remember and more natural to share in a conversation when the opportunity arises. Keeping it short also avoids turning it into a monologue or homily/sermon.
- 5 Practice it out loud.** Once you have written your story out, practice it out loud. Hearing your words out loud may help you clarify or adjust some of your phrasing. It will also grow your faith as you remind yourself of the difference God has made in your life!

On the next page you'll find questions to help prompt you as you articulate your own three-part faith story. You don't need to answer every question--just answer one in each section that strikes you!



PART 1 - WHAT MY LIFE LOOKS LIKE WITHOUT GOD

THE BEFORE

- What was your life like before you had an experience of God's love for you?
- What was your life like before you got serious about following Jesus?
- What was the "bad news" or lie you were stuck in previously that God has entered into?

PART 2 - HOW I'VE EXPERIENCED GOD

THE EXPERIENCE

- How did you experience God's love for you? In a conversation or experience of worship? Through a relationship or experience in life?
- How did you become a follower of Jesus?
- Did you go through a particularly tough time in your life that led you to God?

PART 3 - WHAT MY LIFE LOOKS LIKE WITH GOD

THE AFTER

- What difference has having a relationship with God or following Jesus made in your life?
- How has your faith impacted your life--your everyday experiences, decisions, and relationships?

This writing prompt is adapted from the book "BLESS: 5 Everyday Ways to Love Your Neighbor and Change the World" by Dave Ferguson and Jon Ferguson.

