

## SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY

Your spiritual preparation would be incomplete without a personal testimony—the simple story of how you became a Christian (a follower of Jesus)—and the difference He is making in your life. Here are some suggestions on preparing your testimony.

Remember to keep it **short** and **simple** so it can be translated and shared with the nationals in your mission trip country. Don't use long words, jokes, or idioms. They don't translate easily. Stay away from topics like divorce, smoking and drinking, which many nationals view as inappropriate and offensive behavior. Also, stay away from the topic of money. It's okay to say that God provided all the money for your trip. Just don't refer to specific dollar amounts. The cost of your trip may be much more than the annual income of many people overseas.

Keep your testimony short—no more than one typed page. Begin by telling about yourself: your name, where you live, your job and why you believe God has called you on mission.

Next, tell a little about your life before becoming a Christian (a follower of Jesus). Share how you became a Christian—what your life was like after accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. Use Scriptures that are meaningful to you.

Explain what being a Christian means to you today. How does it make your life different? How do you live each day? What does it mean to you personally?

### SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY

#### DO'S

1. Share your:
  - Name
  - Where you live
  - Your profession
  - Why you came
  - How God provided
2. Share what being a Christian means to you:
  - Your life before Christ
  - Your life after Christ
3. Share how you became a Christian:
  - Why you did
4. Share how others can become Christians:
  - Allow them to respond
  - Share the 3 Circles
5. Express your thanks for being able to share.

#### DON'TS

1. Don't talk about
  - Divorce
  - Smoking
  - Drinking
2. Don't talk about money:
3. Don't be long-winded.
4. Don't use religious jargon.
5. Don't tell jokes.

Finally, explain how others can have a similar experience. You need to clearly and simply present the steps to salvation and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Using the *3 Circles* is an excellent way to share the gospel. Those who are listening to or reading your testimony should have opportunity to respond. Remember to thank them for allowing you to share.

Remember, you are going overseas to build relationships with new friends, which will enable you to share your testimony with them. Your testimony is uniquely your own. No one can share it but you. You can help others see how Christ can make a difference in their lives, too. Why don't you stop what you're doing now and take time to work through your testimony. If you've never shared your testimony before, ask your pastor or small group leader to go over what you have written.

**HELPFUL RESOURCES**

- *3 Circles: Life Conversations* <http://www.namb.net/video/3circlesguide> North American Mission Board
- *Continuing Witness Training*, published by the North American Mission Board.
- *People Sharing Jesus*, published by the North American Mission Board.

**My Testimony**

Introduce yourself:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Your life before becoming a Christian:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

How you became a Christian:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**W**hat has changed in your life because you are a Christian:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**H**ow to lead them through the plan of salvation: (3 Circles: Life Conversations Guide)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Virginia F. Hansen • 561-712-1234 • 561-225-0537 • [vacasa@bellsouth.net](mailto:vacasa@bellsouth.net) • [www.cuba4christ.org](http://www.cuba4christ.org)



Virginia Futch Hansen



Cuba 4 Christ



Virginia Hansen@Cuba4Christwpb



CUBA4CHRIST