

# How to Write Your Story

## SEASIDECHURCH

One of the best ways to communicate the power of the gospel is through personal stories. This tool is designed to help you think through and write down the story of how God has changed your life through Jesus so that you can be ready to share that story with others (before baptism, at community group or with neighbors, family or friends).

### **1 - Read Acts 26**

In this passage Paul tells his story before King Agrippa. Paul was convinced that God would do amazing things if he had the courage to tell his story. Although you may feel like your story is insignificant when compared with Paul's, ask God for the courage and clarity to share with others what He has done in your life.

### **2 - Keep It Short**

As you read Acts 26, one of the things that you'll notice is that Paul's story was not very long—569 words to be exact. When you write your story, it does not have to be long. In fact, the more long-winded your story, the less likely you will actually find yourself sharing it with others.

### **3 - Keep it Simple**

Rather than giving away every detail of your life, highlight the themes and the events that led you to recognize your need for Jesus, his death on the cross and his resurrection.

#### **A Simple Approach**

A three-point approach is often a good way to structure your story as you write. So when sharing how you came to faith in Christ, begin with:

- 1. What your life was like before you trusted Christ,**
- 2. How you surrendered to/ started following Jesus**
- 3. The difference since you've been walking with Him.**

### **4 - Articulate the Gospel**

Every Christian testimony should include the basic message of the gospel. That's what makes it a Christian testimony. Look again at Acts 26:22&23. Do you see what Paul did? He recited the basic message of the gospel. Read other examples of this in 1 Corinthians 15:1-5, Ephesians 2:1-10, and 1 Timothy 1:12-17.

### **5 - Include a Verse**

As Christians, we believe that the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12). This means that the power for changed lives comes not from our words but from God's words. So, share His words. Pick a verse that is particularly meaningful to you and include it with your story. If you would like help with this, don't be shy to ask a Pastor, Elder or Deacon for suggestions.