



Month 7 - Evangelism

OVERCOME WEEK

Overcoming things that prevent you from believing and sharing the Good News of Jesus.



Foundation Scripture

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20



HOST

"Welcome to First Priority! Last week we started talking about Evangelism and the Gospel of Jesus. We learned that the Gospel is GOOD NEWS for everyone because Jesus died for our sins so that we can have a relationship with Him forever."

Today we are going to talk about how we can share the Gospel through our own stories. We will talk about what we need to overcome in order to be able to share, too. Let's pray..."

OPENING PRAYER



SPEAKER

"One of the best ways we can evangelize (tell others about Jesus) is by sharing the story of how we began a personal relationship with Him. Before we can share our stories, we have to overcome fear of failure, rejection, shame, or anything else that gets in the way. We know from our Foundation Scripture this month that Jesus left us a command to tell EVERYONE about who He is and what He's done for us, but He also left us

a promise: that He will be with us wherever we go. We don't have to do it by ourselves - He is with us! It is not our job to convince or make people follow Jesus, only God can do that but we do have a job to share and plant a seed.

So, in order to be more confident in what God has asked us to do, we are going to spend some time working on our own testimonies (the story of how we started following Jesus and what He's done in our lives). If you aren't following Jesus, we would love to talk with you about that decision but we still want you to work through your story up until this point."



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(Have a few Student Leader's pass out My Faith Story sheets and blank pieces of paper. TIP: play soft worship music during this time).



SPEAKER

Take a look at the sheet you are getting from a leader. It is called "My Faith Story" and it is a tool to help you feel confident in your story so hopefully you will share it with others. Take some time to pray before you begin working on it and we will wrap it all up in a few minutes. You will need your Faith Story Sheet next week as well."

TIP: Ask your Campus Coach or a Student Leader to share a little about their faith story before you close and to answer any questions students may have.



HOST

"We hope that this tool helps you feel confident in sharing your story. Telling other people what Jesus did for us is the easiest, most impactful way we can participate in the Great Commission! We will see you next week where we will practice sharing our stories together - there isn't a better, safer place than with our First Priority family. Let's pray."

CLOSING PRAYER

OTHER STUDENT LEADER ROLES



PROMO

Tell a God story on your social media!



WELCOME

Make sure every new face feels welcome and greeted with a smile!



FOLLOW UP

Follow up with students who may have painful stories or who want to know more about Jesus.



My Faith Story

Student Leaders

Your story is one of the most important tools you have been given by God to share the Gospel with the world around you! **The most powerful part of a testimony is explaining the WHY behind your decision to follow Jesus.** Before sharing your story for the first time, make sure to write it down, practice out loud, and pray that God would use your story as you share it!

1. Start with a keyword.

The first step in writing down your faith story is choosing what keywords describe your life before Christ. Below is a list of emotions. **Circle two or three that adequately describe how you felt as a result of a problem you faced without Christ in your life.** You are not limited to this list, so feel free to choose a keyword of your own!

alienated	depressed	heartbroken	prideful
alone	distrusting	hopeless	rejected
angry	doubtful	hurt	uncertain
ashamed	fearful	insecure	unforgiving
bitter	frustrated	lonely	unloved
confused	guilty	lost	worthless

2. Set the background.

Describe the situation in which you came to face this problem and why your keyword describes the way you felt. **It is more important to be honest than dramatic.** This helps people relate with your story personally and understand why we need God in our lives.



My Faith Story

Student Leaders

3. Share how Jesus entered your story.

Now, (*the best part*), describe how you came to know Jesus. Be sure to describe that moment or that process, if you can, with adjectives that show how meaningful and impactful it was for you. Try to describe how Jesus touched your heart and how you responded, such as asking Him to be your Lord and Savior. Again, be honest here. This part challenges people's idea of what God is like.

4. State the impact of Christ on your life.

Talk about how Jesus impacted your problem and your life. Use the emotion opposite of your keyword and share how Christ either reversed your problem or is continually giving you the power to overcome. This is the part that inspires your hearers to place their hope in Jesus!

Now that you've prayed about your story and written it down, you are ready to share it! **A few tips when sharing:**

1. Pray for God to make the right moment available for you to share your story.
 2. It is important to be honest and natural. This is YOUR story so it should flow just like a normal conversation with a friend.
 3. Remember, it is NOT your job to change someone's hearts or introduce them to God. God will use your story and He is the only One who can save people!
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