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GUIDE Nº 13 OF 15 · FREE

Telling Others

Sharing your story simply — without fear and without arguing

— MARK 5:19 (KJV)

A letter to you, dear friend

Dear friend, one day soon someone you love — a parent, a sibling, a friend from the old days — will need exactly what God has given you. And a question will rise in you: 'How do I tell them? I am not a preacher. I don't know enough. What if they argue, or laugh, or ask what I cannot answer?' This guide is your reassurance. God does not ask you to be a lawyer for Him. He asks you to be a witness — and a witness simply tells what he has seen and heard.

You will learn the simple shape of your own testimony, how to share the gospel itself in a few clear sentences, how to answer common objections calmly, and how to leave results to God without fear or pressure. By the end, you will have your story written, a simple gospel outline memorised, and — we pray — the name of one person written down to pray for and speak to this week.

Your story is your first sermon

When Jesus healed a man who had been bound and tormented for years, the man begged to travel with Him. Jesus instead gave him the mission that still defines personal evangelism: 'Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee.' Notice — not 'explain every doctrine,' not 'win every argument.' Tell them what the Lord has done FOR THEE. Your story, honestly told, is a sermon no one can argue with, because it happened to you.

Shape your story in three parts, each a few sentences. Before: what your life was like — honestly, without exaggerating or glorying in sin; name the emptiness, fear, bondage or searching. The meeting: how you heard about Jesus, what you understood about the cross, and the moment or season you surrendered and believed. After: what has changed — peace, freedom, new desires, answered prayer, and also honest struggles God is helping you through. Practise telling it in two minutes. Write it in your notebook. A prepared witness is a bold witness.

Share your story in natural moments: over food, on a journey, when someone notices your change and asks — and they will notice, and they will ask. Your changed life opens the door; your story walks through it. Keep it warm, keep it about Jesus more than about yourself, and always end with an open door: 'He can do the same for you. Would you like to hear more?'

> *"Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee."*
> **— Mark 5:19 (KJV)**

Do this:

1. Write your testimony in three parts: before, the meeting, after.
2. Practise telling it aloud in about two minutes.
3. Pray this week for one named person to share it with.

The gospel in a few clear sentences

Beyond your story, learn to state the gospel itself simply, because some hearers need the message explained, not only illustrated. Here is a faithful outline used by generations. God loves you and made you for Himself. Our sin separates us from God — all have sinned — and sin's wages is death and judgement. Jesus Christ, God's Son, died on the cross for our sins and rose again; He is God's only provided Saviour. Whoever repents — turns from sin — and believes on Jesus receives forgiveness and eternal life as a free gift. That is the whole gospel in one breath; every sermon in Acts is an expansion of it.

Two verses carry this outline beautifully and are worth memorising for sharing: John 3:16 for God's love and gift, and Romans 10:9-10 for how a person responds. Add Ephesians 2:8-9 for grace through faith. With three verses and your story, you are equipped for most conversations you will ever have. Depth will grow with the years; do not wait for depth before you begin.

When the moment ripens, do not be afraid to ask the gentle, direct question: ‘Would you like to receive Jesus now?’ Many people are readier than we assume; they were only waiting to be asked. If they say yes, lead them in a simple prayer of repentance and faith — the guide ‘You Are a New Creature’ contains one — and connect them to fellowship and follow-up at once, as others did for you.

> *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.”*
> **— Romans 1:16 (KJV)**

Answering with gentleness, not arguments

Peter instructs us to be ready to give an answer for our hope — and adds the manner: ‘with meekness and fear,’ gentleness and respect. The goal of a witness conversation is not to win a debate but to win a person. Listen fully before answering. Respect the person’s intelligence and history; many objections are really wounds or honest confusion wearing armour. Answer what you can, simply. Admit freely what you cannot: ‘That’s a good question. I don’t know yet — may I find out and come back to you?‘ Honesty builds more trust than bluffing ever will.

Common questions have calm answers. ‘All religions are the same’ — point gently to Jesus’ uniqueness: no other founder claimed to die for the world’s sins and rise from the dead; Christianity is not man reaching up but God coming down. ‘I am a good person’ — agree they may be kind, then explain God’s standard is holiness, and the cross exists precisely because our best cannot bridge the gap; that is why grace is good news. ‘What about my family / tradition?’ — honour their love for family, share that following Jesus deepens love and honesty at home, and that truth must be chosen personally by every generation. ‘I will do it later’ — the most dangerous answer of all; respond with loving urgency: tomorrow is promised to no one, and the door is open today.

Never argue about side issues while a soul hangs in the balance. Keep returning, kindly, to Jesus: who He is, what He did, and the decision He invites. You are a witness, not a prosecutor. Leave the convicting to the Holy Spirit — He is far better at it.

> *"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."*
> **— 1 Peter 3:15 (KJV)**

Overcoming fear

Fear of people is the main reason believers stay silent, so let us face it honestly. You may fear ridicule, rejection, losing friendships, or being exposed as a new believer who 'doesn't know much.' Every witness in the Bible knew these fears; the apostles prayed not for the removal of danger but for boldness within it — and God answered with the Holy Spirit's courage. Pray the same way. Boldness is not a personality trait; it is a gift given to those who ask and then open their mouths.

Practical helps: begin with the easiest people — the kind, the curious, the suffering who welcome prayer. Share in writing if speech freezes you: a message, a note, one of these free guides given with a smile. Go with another believer when visiting. And remember whose honour is at stake: we are ambassadors of a King we love, carrying the best news on earth. Shame dissolves when gratitude grows — the more thankful you are for your own salvation, the more naturally your mouth will speak of it.

If someone rejects the message, shake off the dust as Jesus instructed — without bitterness. You delivered love; the response is between them and God. Some who refuse you this year will seek you in a crisis five years from now, remembering exactly who carried peace. Sow faithfully; harvests have their own seasons.

> *“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”*
> **— 2 Timothy 1:7 (KJV)**

Living the message you speak

Your life is the loudspeaker for your words. A witness whose life contradicts the gospel — dishonest at work, cruel at home, enslaved to the old habits publicly — will find his words falling on closed ears, and fairly so. You do not need perfection; you do need integrity: quick repentance when you fail, honesty in money, kindness to the powerless, faithfulness to your word. A humble, clean, joyful life makes the gospel plausible to watching people before you ever open your mouth.

Serve people practically as you witness: help the sick neighbour, visit the bereaved, share food, tutor a child. Jesus’ miracles of mercy opened ears to His words of truth. In a hard world, consistent kindness is a language everyone understands and few can argue with.

Finally, keep praying for people by name — a written list, prayed over weekly. Evangelism that begins on its knees ends in harvests. Pray, live, speak, invite, and follow up. That rhythm, kept humbly for years, will fill your life with spiritual children — and there is no joy on earth quite like watching someone you led to Jesus lead another. Welcome to the family business.

> *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”*
> **— Matthew 5:16 (KJV)**

A PRAYER FOR BOLDNESS AND LOVE

Father, thank You for saving me — my gratitude is bigger than my fear. Give me Your love for the people around me and the boldness

of Your Spirit to speak. Prepare the heart of the person I am praying for, open a natural door this week, and give me simple, true words when it opens. Use my story for Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Verses to hold on to

Keep these verses near you. Read one each morning. Say it aloud. God's Word will hold you on days when feelings are weak.

> *"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?"*
> **— Romans 10:14 (KJV)**

> *"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."*
> **— Mark 16:15 (KJV)**

> *"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."*
> **— Proverbs 11:30 (KJV)**

> *"And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."*
> **— Daniel 12:3 (KJV)**

You are not walking alone

Dear friend, you have finished this guide — well done. Keep it near your Bible and return to it whenever you need it. Growth is day by day, and your Father is patient, present and proud of every honest step you take toward Him.

If you would like someone to pray with you, answer your questions, or walk with you in these first steps, our free Salvation Follow-Up team would be honoured to hear from you. Visit slgrace.com and open the chat — ask for the "Salvation Follow-Up" desk. It is completely free, and you will be received with love.

The other free guides in this series

1. You Are a New Creature — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

2. First Steps With Jesus — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

3. How to Pray — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

4. Reading the Bible — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

5. Sure of Heaven — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

6. The Holy Spirit, Your Helper — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

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11. Growing Every Day — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

12. When Doubts Come — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

13. God's Promises for You — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

14. Your First 30 Days — free from the Salvation Follow-Up Desk at slgrace.com

May the Lord bless you and keep you, make His face shine upon you, and give you peace — today and all your days. (Numbers 6:24-26)