

The goal is not just to explain the ideas of the Christian faith, in an abstract way, but to show how the truths of the Gospel are seen in your life and experience.

You can hear Paul describing a testimony in 1 Thessalonians 1:8-10. It tells us both their story and God's story.

Eg.2. A Gospel Outline

There are lots of good and different ones of these.

Eg.3. Tell a story about Jesus

Know the gospels really well, especially great little stories about Jesus. Eg. Simon the Pharisee (Luke 7:36-50), Jesus and the centurion (Matthew 8:5-13), Jesus and Zaccheaus (Luke 19:1-10), the thief on the cross (Luke 23:32-46) and many, many more.

OCF Carlton

Sharing the Gospel

The best thing, the most exciting thing and the hardest thing

Why share the Gospel?

Some motivations from the Bible:

- Matthew 9:35-38
- Matthew 28:16-20
- Luke 19:10
- John 6:66-68
- Acts 4:12
- Romans 10:9-15
- Philippians 2:6-11
- 1 Timothy 2:4-5
- 2 Peter 3:8-9

Who is at work in sharing the Gospel?

The following verses talk about our role and God's role:

- Romans 10:8-17
- 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
- 2 Corinthians 4:1-7
- Colossians 4:2-6
- 1 Peter 3:15-16

Role Play: In pairs, talk to each other about Jesus, one at a time.

What was hard about doing it?

What was easy?

What is the Gospel that we share?

Some research passages:

- Isaiah 40:9-11
- Isaiah 52:7-10
- Isaiah 61:1-3
- Mark 1:14-15
- Romans 1:1-4
- Romans 1:16-17
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-8
- Colossians 1:13-23
- 2 Timothy 1:8-10
- 2 Timothy 2:8-9

How should we share the Gospel?

Paul's Model of talking about Jesus:

One message - 1 Corinthians 1:22-24

Many ways of sharing it - 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Two examples of different starting points shows that he understands people and their culture

Acts 14:8-20

Acts 17:22-31

Fig. 1. Your testimony

Often personal testimonies are little more than a brief life history. They can fail to explain the Gospel, and merely give the listener the sense that you have had some vague spiritual experience of some kind. The solution is to make sure that your testimony is still your story, but also contains the Gospel. Or, to put it another way, set your story in the context of God's story, the Gospel.

