

3x3 TESTIMONY

With the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), Jesus commands His followers to *go and make disciples of all nations*. This commission obviously involves evangelism, sharing the good news of the gospel with others. However, studies show that 80% of people who self-identify as Christians do not share their faith on a regular basis. When asked why they don't practice evangelism more often, most Christians will say it is a fear of rejection or they do not feel adequately equipped to share the gospel. Talking about Jesus and sharing our testimony can and should be simple. In fact, as a follower of Christ, His story is already part of your story. Just think of it as 3 by 3!

The 3x3 is a three minute testimony shared in three parts:

- 1) Your life before you met Jesus.
- 2) How you met Jesus.
- 3) Your life with Jesus.

In Acts 26, Paul shares his testimony in the same style:

- **Read** Paul's life before Christ (Acts 26:4-11).
What was Paul's life like before he met Christ? What were his priorities and activities?
- **Read** Paul's meeting with Christ on the road to Damascus (Acts 26:12-18).
What was Paul's initial encounter with Jesus like? How did Jesus redirect Paul's priorities?
- **Read** Paul's life since meeting Christ (Acts 26:19-23).
How did Paul's life change after he met Christ?

Paul's testimony was one of his most powerful tools for sharing the Good News about Jesus with others. Nobody could argue with personal experience. The same is true for anyone who has met Jesus! Take some time to think about your testimony by answering the following questions (you might even write down some notes). Remember, *keep it short and simple!* It's also important to use plain english and try to avoid "Christianese" (words that we often use in church that we assume unchurched people know).

PRACTICE

BEFORE CHRIST (1min)

What was your life like? What were your priorities? What was missing?

MEETING JESUS (1min)

When did you first hear the gospel? What was your initial reaction? Why did you decide to trust Jesus?

WITH JESUS (1min)

What's different with Jesus? How has life changed? What do you know/have now that was missing?

After working through each part of the 3x3, take some time to practice sharing your story aloud (use a timer to make sure you are keeping it around 3 minutes). Although it can be a little awkward at first, you might try practicing in front of a mirror. Once you feel comfortable sharing your 3x3, it's time to film and share it with your network!

NOTE: Always give people an opportunity to respond when sharing the gospel. You want to end your 3x3 by asking, "do you have a story like this?" Encourage others to ask questions using the comments section or connect with you if they want to learn more about starting a relationship with Jesus.

FILMING & POSTING YOUR 3x3

We live in a new world in which everything seems to be going virtual. Rather than seeing this as an obstacle or inconvenience, we as followers of Christ must adapt and see the opportunities. Almost everyone has social media these days, which gives us the ability to reach so many more people with the gospel! Perhaps you have never shared your testimony with anyone, much less posted a video on social media... Never fear! We will walk you through how to post your 3x3 step-by-step. The platform we will be focusing on for now is Facebook since it is widely used and allows you to post longer videos. All you need is your smartphone (or laptop) and a quiet room with good lighting.

FILMING ON YOUR PHONE

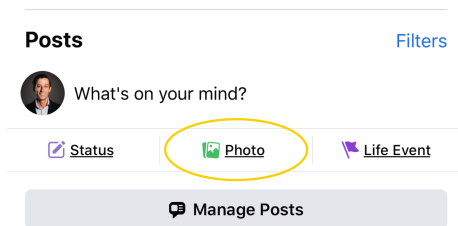
All smartphones (iPhones and Android devices) have an app that allows you to film videos. Although you can simply hold your phone at arm's length (similar to taking a “selfie” picture), it might help to have a stand or tripod to hold your phone in place while you film. These can be purchased at most stores or you can make something at home to prop up your phone. If you would feel more comfortable walking around while sharing your 3x3, you could use a “selfie” stick. If all else fails, just have someone film your 3x3 for you. Whatever method you choose, just make sure it does not become a distraction to your story.

EDITING

Don't worry too much about editing your video (it's never going to be perfect). In fact, it's best if it is more natural. Your video should have a conversational feel.

POSTING

When you have finished filming, open the Facebook app on your phone or your web browser. Go to your profile page and scroll down to the “posts” section. Click on the photo/video button (see image below). On your phone, it should take you to your photo/video gallery. On your computer, it will open your files. Select your 3x3 video and it will upload to your post. Feel free to write a brief intro or hook to accompany your video, but let the video do the talking. You might say something like, “do you have a story like this?” or “how God changed my life.” Another option would be to write a brief description about your life before Christ and end it with something like “then this happened...” (don't give it away, let the video do the talking).



AFTER SHARING YOUR 3x3

Be sure to reply to any comments on your post and follow up with those who ask questions or want to hear more. Sharing your testimony or sharing the gospel should not be a scary experience. You are taking a step of obedience and the more you share the easier it becomes. Remember, nothing we do for Christ is in vain and His Word will never return void.

NOTE: Be sure to tag Center Point Church in your post (type @centerpointchurch2.0 and select the church's page).