

**NorthCreek Baptism: Evaluating a Testimony**

**A. General Directions**

1. Testimonies should be typed, one page, and double spaced.
2. Testimonies of this nature are not intended to convey your entire life story, but rather the key elements of your conversion.
3. Testimonies should be written in the way they will be presented at the time of your baptism.

**B. Testimony Outline** (in baptism booklet)

1. My life before I trusted Christ (1 paragraph): The purpose of this section is not to glorify your sinful past. It is simply to help people understand the state of your life before Christ.

- a. "Positive" aspect of past life—what characterized your life and served as your source of 'happiness' and fulfillment?
- b. Negative aspect of past life—describe the guilt, emptiness, despair or whatever it was that ultimately caused you to consider Christ and eternal things.

c. Writing Tips:

Talk about the direction of your life

Avoid any graphic detail about past sins

2. How I came to faith in Christ (2 paragraphs)

The purpose of this section is to explain how you learned about the gospel, how it related to your situation, and what you did once you were confronted with the truth.

- a. How did you come to understand the gospel?
- b. What did you do at the point of your conversion?

c. Writing Tips:

This should be the bulk of your testimony

Make sure you explain clearly what saved you

3. My life since I trusted Christ (1 paragraph)

The purpose of this section is to describe how Christ has changed your life. It's helpful to relate these changes back to the "negative aspects" previously mentioned and also to give a Scripture verse that has become meaningful to you.

- a. How has your life changed?
- b. Key Scripture

c. Writing Tips:

Include biblical fruits of repentance

Focus on internal rather than external changes

**C. Reflection Questions**

1. Does the person show a genuine brokenness over their sin? (I.e. as Jesus said, only the sick need a physician, does this person know why they need Jesus?)
2. Do they reflect a biblical understanding of the gospel? (I.e. concept of atonement)
3. Do they mention anywhere in their testimony how they were converted? (I.e. faith and repentance are non-negotiable responses to the gospel)
4. Do they reflect a proper view of Lordship? (I.e. to say one is in the light and yet walk in darkness is inconsistent with New Testament Christianity)