Preparing Your Baptism Testimony

Congratulations on your decision to be baptized! Your testimony is a powerful way to share your faith journey and the transformation God has brought into your life. Below are some guidelines to help you prepare your testimony, which you will share before your baptism, either live or through a pre-audio recording.

1. Introduction:

- Start by introducing yourself.
 - Example: "Hi, my name is [Your Name]."

2. Sharing Your Story:

- Life Before Knowing Christ:
 - Briefly describe what your life was like before you knew Jesus.
 - What were some of the struggles or challenges you faced? What did you feel was missing?

• How You Came to Faith:

- What events, people, or experiences led you to Jesus?
- How did you come to understand who Jesus is, the reality of sin, and the gift of forgiveness?

• Why Baptism Now:

- Share why you've chosen to be baptized at this point in your life.
- What does baptism mean to you personally?

• Life After Accepting Christ:

- Describe how your life has changed since accepting Jesus as your Savior.
- What new hope, joy, or peace have you found? How have you seen God working in your life?

3. Words of Gratitude or Encouragement:

- Thank those who have supported you in your faith journey, such as family, friends, or church leaders.
- Offer a word of encouragement to others who might be considering baptism or exploring faith.

4. Closing Statement:

- At the end of your testimony, whether live or pre-recorded, please conclude with the statement:
 - o "My name is [Your Name], and I am choosing to follow Jesus."

Format Options:

- Live Testimony: If you are comfortable, you can share your testimony live at the pool before your baptism. This allows the congregation to connect with you directly.
- **Pre-recorded Audio**: If you prefer, you can pre-record your testimony as audio only. This can help if you're nervous about speaking live. The audio will be played before your baptism.

Practical Tips:

- **Time Limit**: Please keep your testimony to around 2-3 minutes. This helps maintain the flow of the service and ensures everyone has a chance to share.
- **Preparation**: Take some time to reflect and outline your thoughts. You might want to practice your testimony beforehand to feel more comfortable.
- Speak from the Heart: Remember, your testimony is your personal story. There's no right or wrong way to share it. Be honest, open, and sincere.

We are excited to celebrate this significant step in your faith journey with you. Your story will not only glorify God but also inspire others.

Sample Baptism Testimony

Introduction: Hi, my name is John Doe.

Life Before Knowing Christ: When I was young, I was baptized as a child. At the time, I didn't really understand what it meant. It was just something that my parents did for me, and I went along with it. As I grew older, my life felt empty and directionless. I was searching for something to fill the void I felt inside. I turned to various things to find fulfillment, but nothing gave me the peace or satisfaction I was looking for.

How You Came to Faith: My journey to faith truly began when a close friend invited me to attend church with them. At first, I was hesitant, but something in me wanted to find out more. One Sunday, the pastor spoke about the importance of having a personal relationship with Jesus and understanding what He did for us on the cross. I realized then that even though I had been baptized as a child, I didn't really know Jesus or what His sacrifice meant for me. I learned that Jesus died to forgive my sins and to give me new life. That day, I decided to commit my life to Him. I confessed my sins and asked Jesus to be my Lord and Savior.

Why Baptism Now: Today, I am choosing to be baptized as an adult because now I truly understand what it means. Baptism, for me, symbolizes not just a ritual, but a personal decision to follow Jesus. I want to publicly declare my faith and commitment to Him. I see this as my true baptism—one that comes from a place of knowledge and personal faith.

Life After Accepting Christ: Since accepting Jesus into my life, everything has changed. I no longer feel lost or empty. I have found a sense of peace and purpose that I never knew before. Knowing that I am forgiven and loved by God gives me hope and joy every day. My relationships have improved, and I feel a deep sense of connection to God and others. God has been guiding me, providing for me, and giving me strength through every challenge.

Words of Gratitude or Encouragement: I want to thank my family and friends for their support, especially my friend who first brought me to church. Thank you to everyone in this church community for welcoming me and helping me grow in my faith. If you're here today and you're seeking purpose or struggling with life's challenges, I encourage you to turn to Jesus. He is the way, the truth, and the life.

Closing Statement: My name is John Doe, and I am choosing to follow Jesus.

Options for sharing your testimony:

- 1. **Pre-recorded Video**: You can use your phone to record a video of your testimony. Please send the video to todd.w.wolfe@gmail.com, or drop it off in Pastor Todd's office, so he can extract the audio and prepare it for the service.
- 2. Audio Recording: If you prefer, you can record just the audio on your phone. Send the audio file to todd.w.wolfe@gmail.com, or drop it off in Pastor Todd's office.
- 3. **Recording in Pastor Todd's Office**: If you don't have the technology to record, Pastor Todd can help you record your testimony in his office. Please schedule an appointment if you would like to do this.
- 4. Live Testimony: You are always welcome to share your testimony live at the pool before your baptism.

Remember, whichever option you choose, this is all for the glory of God! Your story will inspire others and give praise to Him.