

YOUR TESTIMONY content should look like the following examples (one paragraph): First and Last name, sex, adult/ child...My name is...

Example #1: (290 words) Hilary Gainey, Female, Adult

My name is **Hilary Gainey** and I am 28 years old. Despite being baptized as an infant in a “big brand name” Church, my parents did little to foster a relationship between myself and Jesus. I entered a parochial school knowing very little about Jesus, the Gospel, or Grace. The unwillingness of the teachers to answer any of my questions about the Bible and the legalistic approach left a sour taste in my mouth for all things religious. I left at 11 years old declaring myself an atheist. However, as I grew older, I accepted the idea of divinity and I began to classify myself as the ever-cliche, spiritual but not religious. As a young adult I took part in what most of secular society encourages: reckless spending, physical relationships, and partying- the consequences of which manifested in my early-20’s as daily panic attacks which became so disruptive, I had to take medication to function. One night, after discussing one of the lowest, darkest parts of my past with a close friend, I uncontrollably burst into tears and asked God to forgive me for all I had done. It was the first time I had acknowledged needing forgiveness and acknowledged that it was only the Lord who could give it to me. Not long after, I met the man to whom I am now engaged and attended my first church service in years with him. It was after this service here in January of 2010 that I accepted Christ into my heart. My life has completely changed from one in which I felt lost in the world to having life in Christ Jesus. I want to be baptized today because I want to show publicly trust and obedience to Christ.

Example #2: (250 words) Ryan Rayburn, Male, Adult

My name is **Ryan Rayburn**. I grew up in a non-religious home never speaking of God or Jesus Christ. Until 4 years ago I lived life my way, not at all the way God wanted me to. I knew about God, sometimes even felt God but lacked a personal relationship with Him. I was married here by Pastor Pat, but in 2008 I went through a very abrupt divorce that sent me into an emotional tailspin. I felt a huge weight on my soul for a failed marriage and breaking a promise that I made to God and myself. When everything started to fall apart I knew I needed something more for my life, so I started attending church on my own. I remember one service where Jamie spoke about Grace. This was the first time I really knew or felt what Grace meant. I remember at that service telling God that I am finally giving Him control and wanting to follow His plan for my life. That was the day that I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior and thanked Him for dying for my sins so that I can come to have a personal relationship with Him. Through God’s redeeming love I am now engaged to a wonderful woman and cannot wait to see what Jesus has in store for my future. I am being baptized today to show my unwavering obedience to Jesus Christ and to show others that Jesus is my Lord and savior.

Example #3: (197 words) Halle Rankin, female, child

Hi, I'm **Halle (Hal-ee) Rankin (Rain-kin)** and I'm 11 years old and am growing up in a Christian household. I've been going to Scottsdale Bible since I was born, and I was always taught about God by my mother and father. I really never thought about Jesus until I got older. When I was around 7 years old, I accepted Christ while driving in the car with my mom. I thought I needed a big change in my life in order to go down the right path as I continued to grow up. I wanted to accept Christ to let Him know that I really do love and believe in Him. Jesus has made an impact in my life by helping me make choices that would not only help me, but also help the relationship between Jesus and me. I feel that I can be free of all my sins and know that something good will be waiting for me when I die, because I will go to Heaven. As an infant, I was dedicated to Christ, but I want to be baptized today to tell everybody and most importantly, Jesus, that I want to be with Him forever.