

Witnessing Word Chart

Church Jargon	Misunderstanding	Alternative
sin	do something wrong; specific acts that are wrong	disobeying God; not following God's ways
lost	misplaced; gone; not knowing where you are	separated from God; following a way that leads away from Christ
repent	say you are sorry (as in I'm only human.)	tell God you are sorry for not following His ways and that you want to change
believe	think, guess (as in I believe it might rain tomorrow.)	know to be true; accept as true
ask Jesus to come into your heart	ask Jesus to crawl inside your heart muscle	ask Jesus to be with you and be your constant leader, guide and friend so He can help you choose to want to do only what pleases God
give your heart to Jesus	take your heart muscle out of your body and hand it to someone; give Jesus a valentine	choose to follow the ways of Jesus in everything you want and do
take Jesus as your Savior	take Jesus with you somewhere to save you from danger	choose to follow the ways of Jesus in everything you want and do so you will not be separated from God.
have faith in Jesus	think Jesus might be who He says He is	have complete trust and confidence that Jesus is God's Son who died and was brought back to life so we would not be separated from God
commit your life to Christ	do something to Christ—like you commit a crime	start to live your life with a new and different focus and purpose—following the ways of Jesus
trust Jesus to forgive you	believe Jesus will say, "That's alright. Just don't do it again."	trust and believe God will forget and never remember that you disobeyed Him because Jesus took the punishment for you
make Jesus Lord of your life	make Jesus a knight or king; character in a video game or fantasy game	promise Jesus that you will always try to follow His ways and please Him in all you want and do
confess that Jesus is Lord; confess your faith	admit something that was bad, like confessing a crime	say and believe that Jesus is God's Son who died and was brought back to life so we would not be separated from God
make a profession of faith	have a job as a full-time minister	tell others that you have chosen to follow Jesus ways
born again; to be born again	reincarnated	changed, given a new way of looking at and dealing with the world; becoming a child of God and follower of Jesus
saved	rescued from danger; put away for use later	saved from eternal separation from God

Personal Testimony Outline

1. My life before I made a commitment to follow Jesus.

Consider words or phrases that described your life separated from God.
Your feelings—for example, emptiness, loneliness, lack of purpose.

Transition: I realized I needed a change in my life.

2. How I came to know Jesus personally.

Consider how you became aware of your need for God. How you became aware of sin in your life. At what age did you first realize that “all have sinned” (Rom. 3:23, NIV) included you?
Was it over a long time and series of events or a short time and a single event?
Include your confession of sin, your repentance, and your acceptance of God’s forgiveness.

Transition: My life has changed.

3. My life since I came to know Jesus personally.

Consider your vision of God’s purpose for your life. How you deal with life’s experiences as a Christian. The joy and peace you have as a Christian.
Include recent experiences of God’s work in your life.

Transition: What is your relationship to Jesus Christ?

Personal Testimony Outline

1. My life before I made a commitment to follow Jesus.

Transition: I realized I needed a change in my life.

2. How I came to know Jesus personally.

Transition: My life has changed.

3. My life since I came to know Jesus personally.

Transition: What is your relationship to Jesus Christ?