

## Guidelines for preparing My STORY

Preparing to share **My Story** is the first step in a '3:15 Response' to fulfill the heart of Jesus

The blind man who was healed by Jesus was asked by the skeptical Pharisees to explain what happened to him (John 9). He kept it simple: *"One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see"* (v. 25, NIV). That was his story!

The lame man from birth was healed by God and Scripture records what followed: *"And with a leap, he stood upright and began to walk; and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God."* That was his story!

Only if there is transformation in our lives will it attract the interest of those in our networks of influence. Jesus alluded to this when He told us, *"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."* (Matthew 5:16). There should be a contrast between our life lived "with God" versus our life "without God." **The difference Christ has made in us is our story!**

### Action steps:

#### 1. Pray for conviction...

- a. That Jesus is the only way of salvation: *"I am the Way..."* (John 14:6); *"There is salvation in no one else"* (Acts 4:12).
- b. About having a burden for the lost: like Jesus – Galatians 3:13; like Paul – Romans 9:3

#### 2. Identify three life changes

- a. I now have...
- b. I now have...
- c. I now have assurance of life after death with God in heaven (John 3:16; 6:40)

#### 3. Limit it to three Minutes

Ask permission: "May I share with you what God has done in my life?"

- a. My life without Jesus
- b. My repentance of sin and confession of faith in Jesus
- c. My life with Jesus (the above three life changes)

Development: Start with brief memories before, during and after salvation; Develop these memories into words, then sentences, and short paragraphs; Put them in the order above; Rehearse until you can share with ease and sincerity

- You story is not the place for theological explanations or defending it with evidence
- You story should be shared with humility and sincerity, but also with confidence and enthusiasm

### Objections

1. I don't have a dramatic salvation or healing story
  - ✓ Most people don't. Neither did the apostle Peter: John 6:68 *"...Lord to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. And we have believed and have come to know that you are the Holy One of God."*
  - ✓ Every conversion is a miracle story; your story is typical; it is easily identified with
2. I became a Christian as a child and have no memory of a time without God
  - ✓ Share what the Bible says changed when you became a Christian (Col. 2:13; Jn. 1:12; Rom. 8:1)
  - ✓ Share a time when you fell away from Christ and made a recommitment (as a first time)