

FAITHSTORY PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Northwood Church, Maple Grove, MN

Thanks for being willing to share your FaithStory at Northwood Church! Your FaithStory is a great opportunity to tell people how Jesus Christ has changed your life, and the people who hear your FaithStory will be genuinely encouraged and challenged! Here are some guidelines to assist you in preparing and sharing your FaithStory.

1. **Prayer:** Begin with prayer asking God to help you in this process.
2. **Content:** Please make clear how you came to believe in Jesus Christ and/or how you are sharing your faith with others.
 - a. *Be authentic* – be you!
 - Tell your story the way it happened – be real!
 - Resist the temptation to compare your story with other FaithStories.
 - Don't embellish your story or dwell excessively on past sins.
 - b. *Be intentional*.
 - Identify one main idea or theme you want to communicate through your FaithStory.
 - Always enhance the reputation of Jesus Christ. He is the one who has changed your life and given you forgiveness of sin and eternal life!
 - Refrain from criticizing or putting down people, groups, churches, etc.
 - c. *Be concise*.
 - Avoid clichés and language that sound overly religious, i.e. “salvation”, “scripture” (use “the Bible”).
 - Make it interesting. Begin with a “hook,” i.e. a question, statement, or common experience that makes people want to listen to you.
 - Keep your story less than 5 minutes in length (1 1/4 to 1 1/3 pages, single spaced, 12 pt. font).
 - Think in chapters or blocks such as: 1) what my life was like before I became a Christian 2) how I became a Christian 3) how Jesus has changed my life since I decided to follow Him.
 - Remember this is your *FaithStory*, not your life story! Be wise and let Christ shine through you.
3. **Place and Time:** On Sunday, be in the Community Center meeting room by 9:00 a.m.
4. **Dress:** Wear something you feel comfortable in (“business casual”).
5. **Preparation:** Send a written draft to Brian approximately two weeks before your FaithStory date. Schedule a meeting with Brian to review your Faith Story.