



FREEDOM GROUP: TESTIMONY GUIDELINES

Freedom groups are struggle-specific small groups where individuals commit to investing a season of their life in overcoming a particular life-dominating struggle of sin or suffering.

Testimonies serve as a relational bridge between the group study and personal study component of Freedom Groups. Both studies will share significant content similarity. The tone of these evenings should be that of celebration, even if it is a somber celebration.

Each testimony should be related to the completion or process of completing one of the steps in the personal study.

As you prepare to give your testimony to the group use the following guidelines to help you prepare.

- Remember, this is only secondarily a time of teaching. The goal is to tell your story more than make a point. Everyone is going through the same material; reading the same map. Your objective is to share with them what your journey looked like.
- Begin with how you got into a Freedom Group but do not make your sin or suffering the “star” of the story. Your sin and suffering is only the context for God’s love and deliverance. As you tell your story you are helping others (who are walking through the same struggle and material) begin to understand their life that way too.
- Walk through (briefly) the steps that preceded the one you are giving your testimony about. Particularly, emphasize how each step fed into or prepared you for this one.
- Spend the bulk of the time on how God equipped and enabled you to complete this objective.
 - Use the suggested statement from the personal study material as much as possible to help you get started and to structure your testimony.
 - Discuss the unique struggles you faced and internal resistance you put up.
 - Reference how you saw God’s faithfulness, love, and perseverance with you in the process of this step.
 - Talk about the specific expressions this step required in your own life.
 - Mention the fruit you have seen in your life as a result of this step.
- Near the end of your testimony reference the next step and how you are feeling about it. Be honest about both the eagerness and intimidation. Share with the group how they can pray for you in this next step.
- End by affirming God’s faithfulness and expressing your gratitude to have a group of people walk with you on this journey towards God’s freedom.