

GOD QUESTIONS

August 26th / 27th, 2023
Pastor Steve

How Can I Share My Faith? Part 1

John 9

- ¹ As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. ² "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?"
- ³ "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. ⁴ We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work. ⁵ But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world."
- ⁶ Then he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes. ⁷ He told him, "Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam" (Siloam means "sent"). So the man went and washed and came back seeing!
- ⁸ His neighbors and others who knew him as a blind beggar asked each other, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?"
- ⁹ Some said he was, and others said, "No, he just looks like him!" But the beggar kept saying, "Yes, I am the same one!"
- ¹⁰ They asked, "Who healed you? What happened?" ¹¹ He told them, "The man they call Jesus made mud and spread it over my eyes and told me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash yourself.' So I went and washed, and now I can see!"
- ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man Jesus is not from God, for he is working on the Sabbath." Others said, "But how could an ordinary sinner do such miraculous signs?" So there was a deep division of opinion among them.
- ¹⁸ The Jewish leaders still refused to believe the man had been blind and could now see, so they called in his parents. ¹⁹ They asked them, "Is this your son? Was he born blind? If so, how can he now see?" ²⁰ His parents replied, "We know this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we don't know how he can see or who healed him. Ask him. He is old enough to speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who had announced that anyone saying Jesus was the Messiah would be expelled from the synagogue. ²³ That's why they said, "He is old enough. Ask him."
- ²⁴ So for the second time they called in the man who had been blind and told him, "God should get the glory for this, because we know this man Jesus is a sinner." ²⁵ "I don't know whether he is a sinner," the man replied. "But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!"
- ³⁵ When Jesus heard what had happened, he found the man and asked, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶ The man answered, "Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him." ³⁷ "You have seen him," Jesus said, "and he is speaking to you!" ³⁸ "Yes, Lord, I believe!" the man said. And he worshiped Jesus.

My testimony is a _____ that God will use to lead others to faith in Him.

Results from the Blind Man's story:

- I) His _____ were surprised by his story.
- II) The _____ showed disbelief.
- III) The _____, didn't know what to do.
- IV) The _____ showed consistent, growing faith.

To use my Story, I:

- I) _____ my story.

I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life. 1 John 5:13

- II) _____ my story.

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

- III) _____ my story to God.

But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God. Acts 20:24

Reminders About Your Story:

- I) Nobody can _____ with your story.
- II) Your friends are _____ in your story.
- III) _____ will use your story every time.

But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life. 1 Timothy 1:16

There are no _____ of God's grace.

NEXT STEPS:

- I will memorize 1 Peter 3:15
- I will write out my story this week.
- This week I will share my story with _____.

Writing Your Story

1. Where were you spiritually before receiving Jesus Christ, and how did that affect you - your friends, attitudes, actions and relationships?
2. What caused you to begin considering God/Jesus as a solution to your needs or as Savior?
3. What realization did you come to that finally motivated you to receive Christ?
4. Specifically, how did you receive Christ?
5. How did your life begin to change after you trusted Christ?
6. What other benefits have you experienced since becoming a Christian?

As you write, remember:

- Be concise and simple in wording.
- Avoid religious clichés or “God-talk.”
- Be direct and to the point.
- Two to four minutes is preferred. Three minutes is ideal.
- Emphasize aspects of your story that will relate to your friend.