



## Chapter 4

# YOUR TESTIMONY—AFTER CHRIST

This section of your testimony should tell something of what has changed in your life since coming to know Christ: the blessing of sins forgiven, assurance of salvation, new meaning and purpose in life, or other ways your outlook has changed.

As you prepare to write this section, consider the following suggestion:

- ❶ ***Review the “open nerve” areas you shared in Chapter 1 of this reading. Think about how Christ has healed those sensitive and unpleasant needs. Then in this last section, be sure you clearly relate how Christ has helped you with the specific “open nerves” shared earlier.***
- ❷ ***Don’t present an unrealistic or idealistic picture of the Christian life. Christ’s presence in our lives does not ensure that we will never have another problem. It does mean, however, that He is sovereignly in control of our lives and with us in each situation we face. You might say something like this:***
- ❸ ***“Receiving Jesus Christ into my heart was not an end to all of life’s problems. It did, however, give me the confidence that Christ would be with me in each circumstance and work it out for my good.”***
- ❹ ***Don’t start preaching! Often at this point in the testimony, a witness may begin to urge the person to a similar experience. Keep the testimony personal—not preachy! Remember—you are telling what Christ has done for you. Continue using first person personal pronouns: “I,” “Me,”—not “you.”***
- ❺ ***Review suggestions given in the last two chapters.***

### **Plan for Sharing Your Testimony**

#### **Write in note form:**

1. What happened immediately after you received Christ? (*If nothing spectacular happened immediately, say so! Many people have the mistaken idea that a conversion must be accompanied by sensational “feelings” or happenings. God has quietly converted many people, and their experience is just as real to Him as a more dramatic one. For many people the change is very gradual.*)

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2. How did Christ heal your “open nerves?” \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What are some actual incidents you can use to illustrate your point?

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4. Were there any specific Scripture verses, suggestions, or helps that caused immediate growth in your new Christian life?

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**Testimony (Develop from your plan above.)**  
*Write the third section of your testimony in the space provided. In normal conversation speed, this should be 1 to 1 1/2 minutes long (150 to 200 words).*

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