

Share the Good News!



Part 4

**The Story Sharing
Approach**

Acts 22:1

“Brothers and esteemed fathers,”
Paul said, “listen to me as I offer
my defense.”

Acts 22:2

When they heard him speaking
in their own language, the silence
was even greater.

Acts 22:3a

Then Paul said, “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, and I was brought up and educated here in Jerusalem under Gamaliel.

Acts 22:3b

As his student, I was carefully trained in our Jewish laws and customs. I became very zealous to honor God in everything I did, just like all of you today.

Acts 22:4

And I persecuted the followers of the Way, hounding some to death, arresting both men and women and throwing them in prison.

Acts 22:5a

The high priest and the whole
council of elders can testify
that this is so.

Acts 22:5b

**For I received letters from them to
our Jewish brothers in Damascus,
authorizing me to bring the
followers of the Way from there
to Jerusalem, in chains,
to be punished.**

Acts 22:6

As I was on the road, approaching Damascus about noon, a very bright light from heaven suddenly shone down around me.

Acts 22:7

I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”

Acts 22:8

“Who are you, Lord?” I asked.

And the voice replied,

“I am Jesus the Nazarene,
the one you are persecuting.”

Acts 22:9

The people with me saw the light
but didn't understand the voice
speaking to me.

Acts 22:10

I asked, “What should I do, Lord?”
And the Lord told me, “Get up and
go into Damascus, and there you will
be told everything you are to do.”

Acts 22:11

**I was blinded by the intense light
and had to be led by the hand
to Damascus by my companions.**

Acts 22:12

A man named Ananias lived there.

**He was a godly man, deeply
devoted to the law, and well
regarded by all the Jews of
Damascus.**

Acts 22:13

He came and stood beside me and said, “Brother Saul, regain your sight.” And that very moment I could see him!

Acts 22:14

Then he told me, “The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and hear him speak.

Acts 22:15

For you are to be his witness,
telling everyone what you have
seen and heard.

Acts 22:16

What are you waiting for? Get up and be baptized. Have your sins washed away by calling on the name of the Lord.”

Acts 22:17

After I returned to Jerusalem,
I was praying in the Temple
and fell into a trance.

Acts 22:18

I saw a vision of Jesus saying to me,
“Hurry! Leave Jerusalem, for the
people here won’t accept your
testimony about me.”

Acts 22:19

“But Lord,” I argued, “they certainly know that in every synagogue I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you.

Acts 22:20

And I was in complete agreement when your witness Stephen was killed. I stood by and kept the coats they took off when they stoned him.”

Acts 22:21

But the Lord said to me,
“Go, for I will send you far away
to the Gentiles!”

Acts 22:22

The crowd listened until Paul said that word. Then they all began to shout, “Away with such a fellow! He isn’t fit to live!”

Acts 22:23

They yelled, threw off their coats,
and tossed handfuls of dust
into the air.

Part 4

**The Story Sharing
Approach**

Principle #1

Sharing your story with others is about revealing the fact that Jesus Christ is the one and only Lord and Savior of all mankind.

Principle #2

The story sharing approach is rooted in the fact that God has shared His stories with us.

And as a result of Christ's story, our stories have become a part of His story.

The sharing of God's Good News often includes sharing our personal testimony along with the larger gospel story. Weaving the two together reveals the power and love of God's gracious work through all times and his specific salvific work in a real person's heart, yours.

Principle #2

The story sharing approach is rooted in the fact that God has shared His stories with us.

And as a result of Christ's story, our stories have become a part of His story.

Principle #3

The story sharing approach ministers to those who value the experiential and the practical.

Principle #4

The more you share your story with others the more it will reinforce your own faith, the more it will fuel your desire to keep doing it, and the more it will give honor, praise, and glory to God.

Principle #5

There are many ways to grow in your confidence and competency in sharing your story about God with others.

11 Ways

- **Be patient.**
- **Form a genuine connection with the person first.**
- **Ask questions and listen to their story first.**
- **Get invited to share your story.**

11 Ways

- **Invest in sharing your story by organizing and practicing it.**

Focus on:

- **Your life before God**
- **Your discovery & decision**
- **The difference it made**

11 Ways

- **Own your story. Be honest, transparent, and vulnerable.**
- **Keep your story brief and keep them wanting more.**
- **Remember that your story is about ministering to others.**

11 Ways

- **Customize your story to your audience.**
- **Speak plainly and simply.**
- **Remember that your story is really God's story. He's the hero, not you.**

Principle #5

There are many ways to grow in your confidence and competency in sharing your story about God with others.

Principle #6

Your story is meant to resonate and to minister to specific kinds of people. EVERY testimony has an important role in building up God's Kingdom.

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Principle #6

Your story is meant to resonate and to minister to specific kinds of people. EVERY testimony has an important role in building up God's Kingdom.

Principle #7

**Stop making excuses.
Go, share your story!**

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