

Preparing Your Testimony for Membership



MEMBERSHIP & YOUR TESTIMONY

Your decision to join Forest Baptist Church is an important one. You are joining a spiritual family. Our church is large enough for you to feel like no one notices you are here, but going unnoticed should never be the goal. In order to help everyone get to know you, we ask that you take time to prepare your personal testimony to share with the congregation, on a Sunday (both services) before we vote on you. This will happen in a Membership Moment just before the offering.

At your membership presentation, we ask that you include a few details: 1) briefly tell us about your life's story, 2) tell us especially about your salvation experience and faith in Christ, 3) tell us about your water baptism, 4) tell us why you want to join FBC, and 5) tell us how you believe God can help you serve the congregation. The goal of this time is to let your new church family become familiar with who you are, how God saved you and what He's done in your life.

PREPARE YOUR TESTIMONY

The questions below will help you write a testimony that you will share. Write out your answers to the questions below. Feel free to include any Bible verses or examples. (If you have any questions, speak with you interviewing elder.)

1. What is your name? What is your age? Where do you work/go to school (include grade)?

2. What is your life story? Briefly explain where you are from, your family, and other details about yourself.

3. When and how did you trust Christ? Who is Jesus and how has He changed your life? Explain your baptism.

4. What led you to Forest Baptist Church? What do you like about the church?

5. How do you believe God can help you help others (spiritual gift)? How do you hope to serve and participate at FBC?

WRITE YOUR TESTIMONY

On the back of this paper (or on another sheet), type (or write out) your entire testimony (piecing together the answers above). Try to keep your testimony between 250 and 400 words. Begin by introducing yourself and including the answers to the questions above. Please, **bring your testimony to the membership interview or class as instructed**. An elder will review it and help clarify anything before you finalize it. On the day of your presentation, you will be introduced by an elder, then you will read your testimony.

After you read your testimony, you will be asked, by an elder, to affirm your commitment to our church and its beliefs. You will be asked: 1) Do you know Christ as your Lord and Savior? 2) Have you been baptized by immersion? 3) Do you affirm the church's Declaration of Convictions? 4) Do you pledge, by God's grace, to keep the church's covenant? Please answer each with a "Yes!"