

## LifeGroup Leader Discussion Guide

### Animated: The Power of Baptism Testimonies & Sharing Your Faith

20260628

#### OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the incredible stories we witnessed through baptism this week. Thank You for the way You continue to transform lives through your grace and love. As we gather together, help us to recognize the power of our own stories and the work You have done in each of our lives. Open our hearts to Your Word and allow Your Holy Spirit to encourage and equip us to share our faith with others. Give us courage, wisdom, and compassion as we discuss what it means to be Your witnesses in our everyday lives.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

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**VIDEO:** Watch 2 or 3 of the baptism stories together as a group.

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/4021395>

#### LEADER NOTE

##### Goal of This Study

This discussion is designed to help group members:

- Celebrate the life-changing power of Jesus.
- Recognize that every believer has a meaningful testimony.
- Grow in confidence when sharing their faith.
- Depend on the Holy Spirit rather than their own abilities.
- Identify practical opportunities to share their story.

As a leader, encourage participation from everyone. Remind the group that sharing faith is not about having all the answers—it's about pointing people to Jesus through our own experiences of His grace.

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## 1. Your Story Matters

**Read: Acts 26:9-23**

**Question:** The Apostle Paul regularly shared his personal story of how Jesus transformed his life. What stands out to you about the way Paul shared his testimony? How does his example encourage you to share your own faith story?

### Leader Insights

- Paul focused on what Jesus did, not on promoting himself.
- He honestly described his life before Christ and the dramatic change that followed.
- Paul adapted his testimony to his audience while keeping Jesus at the center.
- Notice that Paul shared his story even when it was risky or uncomfortable.

### Discussion Prompts

- What parts of Paul's testimony connect with your own story?
- Why is authenticity often more powerful than having the perfect words?
- How can ordinary stories of faith be just as impactful as dramatic conversion stories?

### Key Takeaway

God uses transformed lives to point others toward Him. Every testimony matters because every testimony highlights God's grace.

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## 2. Baptism as a Public Declaration

**Read: Romans 6:3-11**

**Question:** Baptism publicly identifies us with Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. Why do you think public declarations of faith, such as baptism testimonies, can have such a powerful impact on both believers and non-believers?

### Leader Insights

- Baptism visibly demonstrates an inward transformation.
- Public faith encourages other believers and strengthens the church.
- Non-believers often connect more deeply with personal stories than theological explanations.

- Testimonies remind us that Jesus is still changing lives today.

### **Discussion Prompts**

- What baptism testimony from this weekend impacted you and why?
- How does seeing someone publicly identify with Christ strengthen your own faith?
- Why are stories often more memorable than facts alone?

### **Key Takeaway**

Baptism points people to Jesus by publicly declaring the reality of His saving work.

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## **3. The Power of Personal Witness**

**Read: John 4:28-30, 39-42**

**Question:** After meeting Jesus, the Samaritan woman simply told others what had happened to her. What can we learn from her example about sharing our faith, even if we don't feel like we know enough?

### **Leader Insights**

- The Samaritan woman did not have extensive biblical knowledge.
- She simply shared what Jesus had done in her life.
- God often uses simple, sincere conversations to draw people toward Him.
- Her invitation led others to investigate Jesus for themselves.

### **Discussion Prompts**

- What excuses do people often give for not sharing their faith?
- How does this story challenge those excuses?
- What simple parts of your story could you share with someone this week?

### **Key Takeaway**

You don't need to know everything to share something. God can use your personal experience with Jesus to impact others.

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## **4. Always Be Ready**

## **Read: 1 Peter 3:15**

**Question:** Peter tells believers to be prepared to give a reason for their hope. What are some opportunities you encounter in everyday life where you could naturally share your testimony or talk about your faith?

### **Leader Insights**

- Faith conversations often happen during ordinary moments.
- People frequently open spiritual doors during times of struggle, transition, or uncertainty.
- Sharing faith is often more about listening well than speaking well.
- Gentleness and respect are just as important as being prepared.

### **Discussion Prompts**

- What opportunities naturally arise in your workplace, neighborhood, school, or family?
- How can we become more aware of spiritual conversations happening around us?
- What does sharing with "gentleness and respect" look like in today's culture?

### **Key Takeaway**

Sharing faith is often a lifestyle of readiness rather than a special event.

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## **5. Empowered by the Holy Spirit**

### **Read: Acts 1:8**

**Question:** Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would empower His followers to be witnesses. What fears or obstacles sometimes keep you from sharing your faith, and how does this promise encourage you?

### **Leader Insights**

- Common fears include rejection, awkwardness, lack of knowledge, and fear of saying the wrong thing.
- Jesus never intended us to witness in our own strength.
- The Holy Spirit gives courage, wisdom, and opportunities.
- Our responsibility is faithfulness; God is responsible for the results.

### **Discussion Prompts**

- Which fear do you most relate to?
- How have you experienced God's help when talking about faith?
- What changes when we focus on God's power rather than our limitations?

### **Key Takeaway**

The Holy Spirit empowers ordinary people to do extraordinary things for God's kingdom.

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### **Closing Challenge**

This week, take a few minutes to write out your testimony in three parts:

1. What was your life like before fully trusting Jesus?
2. How did you come to faith in Christ?
3. How has Jesus changed your life since then?

Pray for one person in your life who needs to hear about Jesus, and ask God for an opportunity to share part of your story with them this week.

### **Leader Tip**

If time permits, invite group members to briefly share one sentence from each part of their testimony. This can help build confidence and provide encouragement for sharing outside the group.

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