

# Growth Group Bible Study – July 12<sup>th</sup>

## Start the Conversation

In Pastor Wade's introduction, he talked about the meaning of the word "testimony." **What do you think of when you hear this word?**

One of the meanings of the word testimony is "a public profession of a religious experience" or in other words, telling people what God is doing or has done in your life. Take a few minutes to allow time for group members to share their "testimony" about God's work in or through them!

## Turn to the Bible

There are many places in the Bible that mention someone "testifying" or sharing a "testimony" about their experience with God. Read the following passages and answer these questions: **Who was sharing their testimony in this narrative? Who were they telling? What was the result of their testimony?**

John 4:1-42

Acts 4:1-33

**Has there ever been a time when you shared your testimony with someone? Would you be willing to share with your group about that experience? What kind of emotions did you experience as you were sharing your testimony? What was the result of that encounter?**

Read Acts 1:8. **What does this verse say about our role in others coming to know Jesus as Savior?**

It is important for us to understand that we have a responsibility to testify (or be a witness) for Christ, but we are not responsible for the response of others to our testimony. Read John 12:32. **What was Jesus referring to when He spoke of being lifted up? What did Jesus say He would do?**

Finally, let's read John 15:26-27 and John 16:5-11. **According to these verses, who is responsible for being a witness for Jesus? According to John 16, what role does the Holy Spirit play in a person repenting of sin and trusting in Christ as their Savior?**

## Make a Plan

As we mentioned before, a testimony is something that God has done or is doing in your life. It might be the story of your salvation experience; or maybe it is a story of God's provision/protection in a time of need. Whatever your story is, God will use it to touch someone's life. **What story could you share?**

**Will you take time this week to write out one or more of "your stories" that you could use to testify of the work of God in and through you? It doesn't have to be long; it just has to be yours!**