





**How long have you been attending Calvary Baptist Church?**

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**If your application is approved, do you plan to attend Calvary Baptist Church after your baptism on a regular basis and make us your church home?    Yes    No**

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### **TESTIMONY**

On a separate sheet of paper, please provide your personal testimony of faith in Christ using the following outline. Use Scripture to support your understanding whenever possible.

1. Explain how you came to understand that you were a sinner.  
*Before I became a Christian, I . . .*
2. Explain how you heard the gospel, were convicted of sin, and turned to Christ.  
*I heard the gospel when. . .*
3. What is the gospel and why do you need it? (These other questions may help to clarify...)  
*What do you need to be saved from? Who is Jesus and why can He save you? What must you do to be saved? If you were to stand before God today and He asked you why He should let you spend eternity with Him, how would you answer Him?*
4. Explain how your life now shows the marks of being a true Christian.  
*I know that my salvation is real because. . .*
5. Explain why you want to be baptized.  
*I want to be baptized because. . .*

(A sample testimony is included to illustrate the appropriate length and the use of Scripture. Be sure to put your testimony in your own words rather than quoting from the sample.)

## SAMPLE TESTIMONY

I was raised with a measure of church influence. I was taught as a child that the Bible was the Word of God and Jesus was the Son of God. When I was a teen-ager, a family member told me those beliefs made me a Christian and I would therefore go to heaven when I died. On that basis, I mistakenly believed I was a Christian for several years.

After I moved away to college, certain things began to trouble me about my claim to being a Christian. I rarely attended church, almost never read the Bible, prayed only when I wanted something, and was curiously restrained from speaking the words "Jesus Christ." For a long time I dismissed those concerns, trying to persuade myself that I "just had to be a Christian."

At the same time, the moral quality of my life was deteriorating. I experimented with various sinful pursuits. Inwardly, I was bitter and angry. I had no meaningful friendships and treated my family poorly. My life illustrated Ephesians 2:1: "You were dead in your trespasses and sins."

One day, my spiritual failings came to a head. After a night of partying, the thought occurred to me, "You call yourself a Christian? How could you do the things that you do?" I was suddenly scared I was not a true Christian. I sensed I had to do something about it immediately. "He who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him" (John 3:36).

Recalling things I had learned when I was younger, I knelt beside my bed. I prayed words to the effect of, "Lord Jesus, I thought I was a Christian, but now I am not sure. I am a sinner. I believe You died for my sins on the cross. Lord, I really and truly want You to be my Lord and Savior."

In the best way I knew how at that time, I was surrendering my life to Christ and trusting Him alone for my eternal salvation. Acts 16:31 says: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."

My life changed dramatically after that point. I began to read the Bible in the days that followed. To my surprise, I understood it! I knew it was true. I also found, without trying, that I no longer desired many of the sins that previously characterized my life. I also had something I did not previously know was part of the Christian life. I had His blessed peace in my soul. Unlike the angry man I had once been, I found I was at peace with God, myself, and others.

The Bible says "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). I am someone new since Christ saved me.

Words cannot express my gratitude to Jesus Christ for my salvation. I'm here to be baptized to publicly identify with Christ and express my obedience to Him.