

Your Testimony is Powerful - 5/31/26

It is live stream if you want to go back and catch it, but just to, if you want to give them a hand, this is Pastor Jeff, Pastor Colleen, and they're going to be ministering to us today.

It's always better to have them clap before the sermon, just so you know, just saying.

Yes, so thank you very much.

Graciously ask you no.

I think it was more like begged you to come.

No.

Aren't they doing a great job as the pastors of this church?

Yes.

We told them when this all transpired, now the good news for you is you have to be our pastors.

And so they almost quit, but they stayed.

That's good.

Thank you, guys.

We are FMI missionaries, Foursquare Missions International missionaries.

We are sent out by this church.

And all of your prayer support and your monetary support.

We have a few other churches that support us, but mostly it's by individuals who the Lord put it on their heart to say, I want to be part of what God is doing in Wales and in Burundi.

And so we say thank you.

The people in Burundi would send their thanks and the people in Wales say thank you because that's how they got to hear the gospel.

So thank you very much for your prayers.

Thank you for your loving support.

Thank you for the cards and letters.

Oh, we didn't get any cards and letters.

Thank you for the emails.

No, thank you for your love and all the communication you give to us.

Wales is absolutely gorgeous.

Interestingly enough, Jeff's heritage is in Wales.

His great-grandfather was there.

And then he came to America and pastored.

Jeff found out about it through grandpa who wrote his autobiography.

We didn't know about it till after he was saved, but it is fascinating to read this man's testimony of Jesus Christ in his life way back when.

And so now, not only are we missionaries with Foursquare Missions International,

But we also happen to be Baptist pastors.

And so that seems like a strange bedfellow thing, but it's not because the Baptists there believe very, very close to what Fourth Square believes.

And so it has been an absolute joy to be there.

Thank you so much for trusting us and supporting us and loving us so that we could be there.

And he's going to tell you some more about the precious people there.

Well, I just, first off, as Baptist pastors, we know all about voting.

So let me ask you, are we supposed to vote yes or no?

Which one?

Yes.

Vote yes.

Okay, you got my vote.

All right.

And David Deal, you've been doing that for 23 years.

Just so you know, David Deal's journaling group, 23 years.

Yeah.

So if you'd like to open a Bible to Revelations chapter 12, I'm going to read.

I'm going to put it up here as well.

But before I, let's see, what have I got?

Ah, let's back this thing up.

because I want to just share briefly something that's happened in Wales where an entire family, all the adults came to Christ this year.

And so it all started with the guy on the left with the boss shirt.

I'm gonna read his testimony a little bit later because we couldn't record it just the way it worked out, but he has struggled his whole life.

with mental health and his parents loved him and took care of him his whole life.

But then he got addicted to drugs and alcohol.

And of course that combination, mental health and drugs and alcohol don't work well together.

And so he would spend at least one night every week in jail.

And he spent a couple of weeks in prison.

He struggled with life, but he gave his heart to Jesus.

Name is Connor.

You'll hear his name.

He's 30 years old, but he gave his heart to Jesus Christ.

Last summer, his faith became real.

Jesus dropped from his head to his heart, and we baptized him along with five others in October.

These are all newly saved people.

And his parents, Connor's parents, Matt and Catherine, witnessed that baptism.

And they heard for the first time the true gospel of Jesus Christ, that Jesus came to earth, that he lived a sinless life, that he was, in fact, God in the flesh, that he went to willingly to a cross where he was crucified, bled and died for the sinfulness of all mankind,

On the third day, he rose again from the dead, and he sits at the right hand of God the Father, and he's prepared a place in heaven for anyone who trusts in him.

They heard the story, Matt and Catherine, but they also witnessed the massive change in Connor's life.

They couldn't believe the difference in Connor because he was all about Jesus, and he was all about telling people about Jesus, and he was coming to the Johnston Baptist Chapel, which is a little village.

When we started, there were eight people in the church, and now we average about 32, which sounds like a small number in America, but it's a massive number in a village in Wales.

Anyway, Matt and Catherine saw that, and so they came.

to Christmas Eve service where they heard the gospel again.

And then they came to church again and then on February 1st, they received Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

And their two other remaining adult children, Katie and Tommy saw the witness, the change in Connor's life, the change in their parents, Matt and Catherine's life and on

Easter this year, both Tommy and Katie received Jesus Christ.

Now, Grace wasn't ready.

Grace is the wife of Tommy.

You're going to hear a little bit more about them.

But anyway, she was not ready, which, you know, you have to make a decision.

Every human being has a choice.

Are you going to believe Jesus and believe in what he's done or not?

But the next week, Matt and Catherine were baptized along with three others.

And that week, Grace gave her heart to Jesus Christ.

I want to show you the family because they are all new believers.

They all had to be taught that this is a Bible, it is God's Word, and that there are big numbers and that means the chapter, little numbers and that means verses.

And so they had to learn about Old Testament, New Testament, and they've been coming to church and they have been sharing their testimony with others in Wales and people are coming to Christ.

I wanna talk about how your testimony is powerful.

I wanna talk first about what the Word of God says about testimony.

When you become born again, and we've seen many people come to Christ, we're gonna baptize four of which Tommy, Grace and Katie are three.

And then another guy, a Welshman by the name of Gary Howells, he will also be baptized.

And that will happen as soon as we get back to Wales.

But the first thing that happens is that you start to learn about God's word and you devour it.

It's like, wow, this is amazing.

Where did this ever come from?

And then you get baptized in water and you start sharing your testimony.

You tell others what's happened to you.

Many people like Connor, he didn't have to say a word.

His testimony was his life.

But let's read what the Word of God tells us in Revelation about what's happening now.

Here is the Word of God.

John witnessed this in this event that happened in heaven.

It says this, "...then war broke out in heaven.

Michael and his angels fought against the dragon."

And the dragon and his angels fought back.

But he, the dragon, was not strong enough and they lost their place in heaven.

That great dragon was hurled down.

You wonder, who is the dragon?

There it is with the dash.

That ancient serpent called the devil or Satan who leads the whole world astray.

Who leads the whole world astray.

He was hurled to the earth and his angels with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say, Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah.

For the accuser of our brothers and sisters who accuses them before our God day and night has been hurled down.

They, our brothers and sisters, triumph over him, the devil, by the blood of the Lamb.

By the word of their testimony, they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.

Therefore, rejoice you heavens and you who dwell in them, but woe to the earth and the sea because the devil has gone down to you.

He's filled with fury because he knows that his time is short.

Let's pray.

Father, thank you so much that you sent Jesus, that when he died and rose again, that he is now in heaven and that pushed the devil out of heaven and his angels, those demons.

But Lord, they are now on this earth.

They've been sent here and they are here and they are angry because they know they have a short time.

Lord, I pray that you would speak to us about our testimony and how important it is in our hearts by your spirit that we might follow you in Jesus name.

Amen.

So I'm going to leave that passage up for a little bit.

They, that's us, brothers and sisters of John, triumphed over the devil, three things, by the blood of the lamb, the word of their testimony.

And the Greek word is martyrion, where we get the word martyr, martyrion.

And they did not love their lives so much as to shrink to death.

The Latin word is the word testis, where we get the word testimony.

And literally the Greek core meaning of testimony and witness are exactly the same.

Witness or testimony is testifying as to what you have seen or experienced.

And those of us who are truly born again, you have a testimony.

You have a testimony.

Connor's life was a testimony.

And because his parents have known him their whole life and they were trying to help him his whole life, they didn't need any words to convince them that Jesus is real.

Because Jesus was real in Connor's life.

And they said, I don't know, but we got to find out about this Jesus thing.

And they saw his life, which was a witness.

Sometimes people use this Christian witness as a good testimony.

Well, he has a good testimony of Jesus.

Oh, okay.

Christian testimony, whatever.

But we are to be witnesses.

So what does that mean?

Well, when you go to court, you tell what you have experienced.

It's not an opinion.

It's not your preference.

It's not what someone else says.

When you testify, you are talking about what you have personally experienced.

So what he or she, what a person testifies is what they've heard, what they've seen, what they felt, what they've tasted, what they've touched.

And that's why 2 Timothy 1 verse eight, 2 Timothy 1 verse seven and eight, two very important scriptures.

Verse eight says, do not be ashamed of the testimony of the Lord.

We must tell what we've experienced, testify to what we've witnessed.

So sharing your testimony is absolutely important.

And today I want to talk about sharing your testimony, your story with God.

why your testimony is so important how you should share your testimony and how what the priority is in sharing your testimony the first thing i want to say is those of us who are born again if you are born again you absolutely have a testimony you were headed to hell but you have been redirected by your faith in jesus christ you received the grace

of God through Jesus Christ given to you to give you eternal life.

And you know now that you're directed towards heaven with your life.

That is a testimony.

Does anybody here have that testimony?

If you don't have that testimony, please see me because I will answer questions.

One of the things I do in Wales, I go to the coffee shop and then I will let the men that want to ask me questions.

And in fact, as soon as I get back, you're going to hear about Tommy.

Tommy says, Pastor,

Do you know Billy?

I said, I haven't met Billy.

He says, well, Billy has some questions.

He wants to ask you about Jesus, but he's really interested in science.

Can you answer questions?

I said, bring it on, man.

Bring him.

Let me talk to him.

You have a testimony if you're born again.

Secondly, many of you

Most of you, if not all of you, have a testimony of what God has done in your life.

Maybe you are in the middle of something, finances, health, family issues.

You're marching forward in life and God has intersected you.

You have a testimony.

So the first thing that a testimony does is it defeats the devil when he's trying to attack you.

It defeats the devil in what he tries to do on this earth.

Public acknowledgement of God working in your life will defeat the devil.

So the devil, what he wants to do, Satan, the accuser of the brethren, that old serpent, that dragon of old, he wants to keep people from faith in Jesus Christ.

The devil wants to silence the testimony of those so it can't be used by God to stop him or to do a number of other things which we're going to get into.

And he wants to prevent glory going to God that would encourage you and encourage others.

The devil wants you to doubt God and he wants you to move from faith to unbelief.

So the reason for strong faith and trusting in God is because why we need it is because life can be overwhelming.

It can be difficult.

And as a believer, you are going to get pushback from the devil.

All of us will experience some form of that.

But we overcome by the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ, and the word of our testimony, our witness.

Satan cannot do anything about or dismiss what God has done in the lives of those who follow him.

He can't do anything about it.

Satan always sends doubt.

He's done that since time began.

When man was first new on this planet by God, Satan came to Eve and you might remember, did God really say you can't eat of any of the fruit of the trees in the garden?

You won't surely die, come on.

Satan sows doubt.

but testimony gives confidence in God.

Faith in God comes through what God does in the lives of those who belong to Him.

The power of testimony is amazing.

It strengthens others.

It defeats the devil.

It will strengthen you.

When we consider

telling our story with God, what God has done for us, what should we do?

How should we share our testimony?

I'm gonna get to that in just a minute.

But when people hear your story, do they walk away knowing who God is in your story and the fact that what you expressed would not be possible without Him?

I just wanna throw that question in there.

So first, public acknowledgement of God's working in your life will help to overcome the devil.

And public means...

One more person, at least, public to as many people as possible.

If you share your story, it gives an opportunity to praise God, to express thanksgiving.

And one of the dangers is, and I'm gonna go back and forth with the dangers of our testimony, we can praise ourselves.

But first public acknowledgement that God is good, he is worthy to be praised, that he is worthy to be trusted, that you can have faith in him.

Our life is to be reflective of that truth.

So the first thing that it does is defeats the devil.

Second thing it does is it encourages others.

Your story properly delivered will be an encouragement to the ones who hear.

When you hear some of the testimonies that we're gonna share from Wales, it will encourage you if you're a believer.

So when we feel sad or overwhelmed, we find strength and encouragement in the lives of the testimony of others, which is another reason why you and I need a local church, a local fellowship to move forward with God.

Your testimony will really be only entertainment if it doesn't encourage others as to what God has done in your life.

Because when you share your testimony, what God has done in the life of others can be done to you.

Now think about this.

I don't know if you've ever seen this, but Revelations 19.10 says this.

This is more of the revelation that John had seen about what was taking place in heaven.

He thought he was talking to God, but he wasn't.

He was talking to a fellow servant.

He says this, Revelations 19.10.

At this, I fell at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, don't do that.

I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters.

By the way, any money here that's a brother or sister of John the Apostle?

If you believe in Jesus Christ, you are his brother or sister, okay?

All right.

I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus.

Worship God, for it is the spirit of prophecy...

who bears testimony to Jesus.

Prophecy, the testimony of God's activities in people's lives, what God has done, sharing your story so that others can have hope, brings the spirit of prophecy with it.

Because it shows what God is willing to do, not only in the life of the other person, but also in you.

It reveals, testimony reveals God's heart.

It reveals God's nature.

It reveals God's values.

It reveals God's interaction with others.

It gives people awareness of God and who he is.

Now you'd say, well, what does real prophecy do?

Well, here's what prophecy does.

1 Corinthians 14, 3.

The one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening,

Encouraging and comfort.

That's what prophecy does.

In the Old King James or New King James, it says edification.

That means to build up.

Exhortation, that means to stir up.

And comfort, that means to soothe.

True prophecy brings those three elements.

It isn't a, thus saith the Lord, you sinner.

That would not be prophecy.

Of course I'm a sinner.

I am redeemed by the blood of the Lamb.

That's prophecy.

Okay.

Praise Jesus.

When we share our testimony, there's opportunity for what?

happened in the life of another to be duplicated in your life.

When I read my great grandfather's testimony, Richard R. Richards, who came from Wales, and by the way, I live 14 miles right now from his farm in Wales.

He came to the United States and became a pastor and shared Jesus with others.

I didn't know about this until after I was born again and became a pastor myself.

You mean I'm related to somebody in Wales?

You mean he was a pastor in America?

You know what?

If he can share Jesus with people in America from Wales, I can go back to Wales and share Jesus.

Right?

His testimony was prophecy to me.

Praise God.

Now, we have to be careful.

Because our story can be used to elevate us while pushing others down.

That's not true prophecy.

For instance, when I share people that I was absolutely addicted to alcohol, that Jesus set me free, people can be discouraged and say, well, if it's all about you, Jeff, you doing it, you know what?

It had nothing to do with me.

I had everything to do with Jesus that he gave me a word and I just followed his word.

Put that beer down and don't drink anymore.

Okay.

got it it's not about me it's about jesus your testimony has to be about god we need to have confidence in god and not the anomaly of you okay encouragement in the life of others so testimony encourages those who are broken hurting struggling

That if they keep taking steps with God, they too can experience victory.

If God can do it in your life, He can do it in my life.

If He can do it in my life, He can do it in your life.

So what does testimony do?

It defeats the devil.

It literally encourages others, but it will also encourage you.

You are encouraged when you rehearse, oh, what God has done in your life.

That's why I love journaling.

David Deal's journaling group, 23 years they've been going on.

And by the way, anybody who's listening to me in Pembrokeshire, we've been going for all of how long?

How many?

Two months?

Good job.

We're doing it.

We're doing it.

Good start.

but you talk about what God is doing you journal and walk through the process you rehearse that often you look back at what God has done in your life and it encourage you am I am I right absolutely go back and read what God has done it is so easy for us to forget we forget

And so if you remember in the dark times what God has done and share it with others, guess what happened?

There's a boomerang effect.

You're sharing, can I tell you what Jesus did?

He set me free.

This is how he did it and this is what happened.

Boom, boomerang comes right back to you.

Praise God.

Now, there is a real challenge in life for all of us to not become the victims of our difficulties, right?

We can be convinced that no one loves us, that God doesn't care about us.

We begin to feel that way and we distance ourselves from the Lord.

But when we give our testimony, it encourages others and we are encouraging ourselves.

God uses testimony to encourage you.

So you rehearse God's work in your life, what He's done, and you will be encouraged.

When you hear somebody else's testimony, it will encourage you, allows God working in their testimony in your own life.

The right perspective.

know if we're not careful we can be tempted to think that what we've experienced if we've experienced success in our life you know it's because of our superior intelligence or our much better work ethic or our opportunities that we have taken advantage of all based on what i have done but true testimony

gives the right perspective.

It keeps us grounded that God did the work in our lives.

He blesses.

He builds maturity in us.

He keeps us grounded.

God does the work in our lives.

It's about Him and not about us.

Testimony reminds us that grace is all about Him.

Our salvation comes from Jesus, not because we are earned it or are deserving of it.

Our story begins to develop.

It gives us the right perspective of who he is, a confidence, a settled peace that God who has worked in our lives before will do it again.

Do you realize that almost every testimony I've heard of new believers, they've all said, you know, God was with me all the way at the beginning, but I didn't even know it.

Anybody else have that testimony?

We share our testimony, our story in a way that reflects God's working through us and now becomes a priority of good stewardship.

Now, let me share this with you.

It's not on here.

I should have number four, stewardship.

I don't.

I'm just going to put it in here for you, okay?

Stewardship is not just about money or resources or time.

but letting the redeemed say so and stewarding your story.

That there is a good God.

That there is hope firmly rooted in who God is and what he has done in the lives of your life or in the lives of others.

And there's stewardship involved.

I've been given an incredible gift.

You have been given an incredible gift, a gift God has placed in your hands and called on you to share with others.

Your testimony honors God.

So it defeats the devil.

It encourages others.

It encourages you.

Just want to share one more little caution.

I'm going to repeat this again in just a second.

If we're not careful, our story might become less about God and more about you.

Don't become the hero of your own story.

Okay, it's easy to do.

I do it.

We all do it.

James 1 tells us that every perfect gift comes from God, comes from the Father of life.

And if we forget that, you know, it starts to feed our own ego.

Your testimony is the most powerful tool, I believe, that you have for encouraging others in who God is and what He wants to do.

Okay, so there's three steps I want to share.

How do you write or formulate your testimony?

What does it consist of?

Well,

Three parts.

One, what was life like for me before Jesus?

Very simple.

I was far from God.

I can tell you how far I was from God, but I was a long way from God.

Okay, what happened when Jesus came into my life?

Well, I met the Savior of the universe.

I met God.

He spoke to me.

What is your life like now?

Well, I try to live for Him.

It doesn't need to be any more than that.

Praise God.

Before I was headed to hell.

I know this.

What happened?

I met Jesus.

He became real to me.

I know that He lives.

He is alive.

He's real.

He's not just a Bible figure.

He's real.

He came into my life and now I know I'm gonna spend eternity with Him and I'm looking forward to it.

Isn't that weird?

Praise God.

That simple testimony, if you're born again, you have the exact same testimony.

Now, here are some dangers.

I wanna share three dangers.

I didn't put this on a slide, but I'll just share them with you.

Number one, too much detail about sin.

I've heard this, you know, where, you know, I got so drunk every night and then we'd party.

You know, look, the garbage that you've erased from your life, praise God for that.

But you don't need to camp there.

Okay, second, I can become the hero of my own story.

We don't want to do that.

It's not true.

And thirdly, this is a big one.

I want you to get this one, please.

Big danger.

Don't compare yourself with others.

We are all individuals.

You are an individual.

I'm an individual.

What God has done for me, it's possible he can do for you, but your life is different than mine.

My life is different than yours.

I am not the same as Will.

Praise God for him that he's not like me.

I want to share a couple testimonies.

Now, this is Connor, and I shared a little bit about him, but I couldn't capture it on audio, so I'm going to share his testimony.

Hopefully, I will find it.

Pray for me.

It's got to be here.

I know it is.

There it is.

Connor Rowe.

Connor Rowe.

He put this together.

That was a huge...

He did it himself on his phone, shared it in front of the church, which was a huge endeavor, but it shows how much he's changed since he came to Christ.

My name is Connor Rowe.

I am 30 years old.

Here's my personal testimony of how I came to accept Jesus in my life.

I suffered childhood abuse that had a negative effect on me growing up.

I kept the trauma from my family and started using drugs heavily as a teenager to block the pain I was feeling.

I wanted my life to end and I felt no reason to carry on living.

My drug use was getting worse and my mental health suffered.

I was in a bad place.

God spoke to me one night at probably my lowest point.

I knew then He had been with me all through my suffering and pain.

I bought a cross and I put it on my wall to have protection.

My life has steadily improved step by step and my family can see a huge difference in my recovery

I was baptized October 2025, and since then I have felt peace and love in my life again.

Jesus Christ has definitely saved my life.

I attend church regularly, have done the Alpha course, and helped all my family come to faith.

Thank you, Lord.

It's okay to clap for him.

I wanna share just a couple more testimonies.

I shared it before, but there's a lot more of you here right now.

So let me see if I can move this thing forward.

I'm gonna share, I'm gonna let Tommy and Matt, Matt's on the right, he's the dad of Connor and Tommy.

They both came to Christ just recently.

But I wanna tell you, all we said is, would you just give a testimony to those in America?

What's happened in your life?

We had to cut, I had to cut out of everyone.

You'll see some, that's because they went overboard telling us how great Jeff and Colleen is.

I pulled it out and it's still in there, all right, so.

Okay, hi to all our American brothers and sisters, friends of Jeff.

Just give you a quick bit of testimony.

First of all, thanks for sending Jeff and Colleen to us.

Much appreciated.

My name is Matt Rowe.

I'm 53 years old.

Here is my testimony of how the Lord our God revealed himself to me.

I have no prior background of religion or following faith and have only visited church a handful of times for weddings, funerals and christenings.

My family seen Connor come to Christ and he was baptised in October 2025.

I didn't realise at that time how it would change my life.

After his baptism, I was curious and began to pray, read the Bible and attend church.

My interest in Jesus increased and I found myself thinking about God more and more.

I stood up and accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour in Johnson Church on February 1st did.

Since then I have felt the presence of the Holy Spirit and have recently been baptised.

Not long after baptism I felt blessed to hear the voice of God speak my name in a way that is difficult to explain.

I never thought anything like this could happen to me.

My heart has softened.

Jesus has helped me walk away from the darkness and step into the light.

There is still a lot for me to learn and understand, but I already know the truth in my heart and how lucky my family have been to have the Lord as our guide.

Thank you.

My name is Tommy Rowe.

I am from Wales.

I am 26 years old and I never attended church and neither did any of my family.

And then my brother found

God thanks to Jeff and Colleen so I want to say how grateful I am for you allowing them to come to Wales and giving them the opportunity to teach us because I don't feel like I would have found

my faith, if not for them, because Jeff has a fantastic way of explaining the Bible in terms that I can understand.

And Colleen and Jeff are so welcoming.

Any questions I've ever had, they're just a text away.

When my brother found faith, I was then introduced to it and my family.

Since then, we've all found faith.

And me and my wife have been trying for a baby for a year

we got married we thought we were ready when the time we did the house we thought we were ready it wasn't the time we quit all our bad habits thought we were ready it wasn't the time the same week we accepted jesus christ as our lord and savior she is conceived so she's pregnant currently she's seven weeks um praise the lord and people will call it a coincidence i don't believe so um

And I feel like I'm so lucky and blessed to be how much my life has improved since coming to Christ.

I have no desires of the flesh, like alcohol, cigarettes, anything like that.

I've quit all my bad habits.

I'm trying to live my life in a way that would please Jesus.

And I'll bring up my family in the same way.

So thank you, Jeff and Colleen, people in America.

You guys are the best.

Praise the Lord.

Hi, my name's Adam Jones.

I'm 32 years old.

I've lived here in Pembrokeshire for my whole life, never left.

My life's been pretty uneventful for the most part.

I was raised a Christian, but I wasn't following my faith up until very recently.

I've had a lot of problems through my life with addiction.

myself and with close family but since about this time last year I've been coming here to the chapel in Johnston where I was blessed enough to meet Pastor Jeff and Pastor Colleen I was actually baptized by them here last year and my partner Nicole who

was actually an atheist her whole life she actually came to Christ as well through the help of these guys and she was baptized as well and since then everything's been onwards and upwards has been totally different

i feel like i've been saved both of us the best thing that ever happened to us so god bless you guys and thank you for sharing pastor jeff and pastor colleen with us it's different when you're with people who haven't got the same shared values

So you learn, you really learn off each other.

So that's what Alpha's done for me.

And your confidence has grown.

Yeah.

I don't like standing up and speaking.

No, we saw that when we went.

In my personal situation, I already had come to Christ, but I've come to the chapel.

Jeff has taught me loads and he warned me when we were doing the Alpha course about the day of the Holy Spirit.

So I did that day and I sat watching the video and as I sat watching the video,

I was so filled with the Holy Spirit like I was when I originally came to Christ.

That hadn't happened to me since.

And I've been filled with the Holy Spirit since.

And we meet every Friday.

Your Bible study Friday morning.

And it's been amazing.

So thanks to you all.

So my encouragement to you

is share your testimony often.

Share it wide.

And you know you get tired of hearing it.

You go, well, mine's so simple.

It's just nothing.

I promise you, it pushes the enemy away from you.

Secondly, it will encourage others, as simple as you think it is,

or as nondescript as you think it is, I promise you, it is the spirit of prophecy.

The Holy Spirit goes with it.

Share your testimony.

And if there's a boomerang, it'll come right back to you and encourage you as well.

Please share your testimony.

In fact, I would suggest, please, share your testimony with one other person before you walk out the door today.

Can we do that?

Some of you are not so sure.

Let's pray.

What?

Colleen says, if anybody would like to record a testimony to send back with us, go see Colleen in the corner.

And then also, just very briefly, if anybody would like the QR code to provide funds for Burundi on a regular basis, because they need it.

They need it for their classes.

They're starting a whole set of classes this week coming up.

Please see us.

We've got the QR code for that.

But let's pray.

Father,

thank you so much for your word.

Lord, thank you that you've shown us what testimony is and what it does.

Lord,

I know that because of the testimony that you've given me, many people have come to Christ.

Lord, I pray that that would happen here.

I pray that it would happen with those in our lives.

And even when we tell the testimony again to people who may be in our family and poo-poo it and don't really want to hear it, but as we share, Lord, that your spirit would work in that testimony.

And Lord, that it would...

be the spirit of prophecy in the life of others, that they would see who you are, your grace, your love, and they would desire you as well.

Praise you, Jesus.

Amen.

So if you would please stand.

Let's see if I've got another slide here.

I think I do.

See if you guys could move.

Oh, I got to push the right button.

Would you stand?

Let's sing this song.

And then I'll release it back to Pastor Will.

This is our anthem at Johnston.

This is my desire to honor you.

Lord with all my heart I worship you All I have within me I give you praise All that I adore is in you

Lord, I give you my heart, I give you my soul I live for you alone, every breath that I take

every moment i'm awake lord have your way in me lord i give you my heart i give you my soul i live for you alone every breath that i take every moment i'm awake

Have your way in me.

Lord, have your way in us.

And I want to just, with our eyes closed, maybe there's someone here who said, you know, I really want to meet Jesus.

Well, I'm going to tell you what, you can do it right now.

It's as simple as ABC.

A, you have to admit to yourself and to God that you are a sinner in need of a savior.

A, admit.

B, you must believe.

That means you must put your trust in Jesus Christ, that he really did come to earth.

He really did die on a cross for you.

And he really did rise again from the dead.

And then you would confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus.

Those who confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in their heart that God raised him from the dead will be saved.

And so if you're willing to pray this prayer along with me, let's pray.

Father, I admit that I'm a sinner.

I cannot save myself.

I live my own way my whole life.

but Lord I've come to understand that you came to earth and lived a sinless life that you paid the price on the cross for my sin and you went willingly to death and on the third day you rose again from the dead and you prepare a place in heaven

for all who believe.

Lord, count me.

Count me into this.

I choose to believe in you and trust in you.

From this day forward, I will live for you.

Lord, I know the things that I've done are wrong, but now I'm gonna live for you.

And Lord, I'm going to confess that you are now my Lord and Savior.

Thank you, Jesus.

Now, I want to, with our eyes closed, heads bowed, if there's anyone here, you prayed that prayer and meant it for the first time, would you raise your hand?

And by doing so, you are confessing the Lord Jesus Christ.

Is there anyone who would say, yes, leave it up, put it up.

You can do it all the way up.

Let other people see it.

And what you are saying is in no sense in being self-conscious because the Savior of the universe says yes to you if you say yes to him.

If you're willing to say yes to him, raise your hand all the way up.

Put it up all the way.

Praise God.

Praise God for you guys because Jesus now is your Lord and Savior.

You have just moved from death to life.

And you are just like the rest of us, all right?

You're our brother and sisters.

Thank you, Lord.

Amen.

Well, guys, that was very exciting.

It was very exciting.

I love hearing about our sister church across the pond and what God is doing there.

Really excited about all that.

And I tell you what, when we visited last year, it was quite amazing to see them and to see those faces.

And Tommy, the last gentleman who shared, boy, he is a right kick in the pants.

And so he's quite fun.

And I wish we could have met the Rowe family, but really just want to continue to lift them up in prayer.

Really excited about what God is doing over there.

If you would like to leave an offering for them, I know that they are supported.

But if you have it on your heart to do so, you can put it in the offering box.

Just mark it with their name, and we'll make sure they get it.

But...

We also ask that you remember there's prayer on Tuesday night.

If you'd like to be a part of that, come on out.

And I think that's all that I have.

Yes, and if you have a testimony and would like to share, just to say hi, even if you just want to say hi, that would be great.

These people are quite amazing, and they're new in their faith, and to know that they have an older brother or sister on this side praying for them would be great.

And so if you want to do that, you can see them, and they'll be happy to record that.

And don't pat Mark on the back too hard, but Mark's back there.

Yay!

I will say the only disappointment I have is you took your braids out.

You can't imagine the people that wanted to see your braids in your beard.

And so I know.

What do you do?

What do you do?

Amen.

Lord bless you guys, and we'll see you guys next week.