

FINDING YOUR STORY: 5 TIPS TO HELP YOU WRITE A FAITH-BASED TESTIMONY

*Your story is more than words—it's a
weapon.*



**“They overcame him by the blood of the
Lamb and by the word of their testimony.”
— Revelation 12:11**

*A free writing resource from Joseph
Editorial Services*

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LET'S BRING YOUR STORY TO LIFE

ABOUT JOSEPH EDITORIAL SERVICES

YOUR STORY HAS KINGDOM PURPOSE

Hi, I'm Megan Joseph, Lead Editor and Writing Coach at Joseph Editorial Services. My mission is to help authors turn their God-given stories into books that heal, inspire, and transform lives.

Your story has power because it carries testimony—proof of God's goodness, faithfulness, and redemption. The Bible reminds us that we overcome by the word of our testimony (Revelation 12:11). That means your words don't just tell a story—they tear down strongholds.

But I understand that starting can feel overwhelming. What part of your story do you share? How do you write it in a way that helps others while protecting your own healing journey?

That's why I created this guide—to help you identify the heart of your message, find your voice, and begin writing with confidence and clarity.

Let's dive in.



TIP #1: IDENTIFY WHO NEEDS YOUR MESSAGE

Before you write a single word, pause and pray: “Lord, who is my story meant to reach?” It’s one of the most important questions you can ask, because writing without an audience in mind can make even the most powerful testimony feel unfocused or ineffective. As believers, we’re called to speak words that are “edifying, administered with grace, and full of wisdom” (Colossians 4:6; Ephesians 4:29). But that wisdom looks different depending on who we’re speaking to.

Even Jesus adjusted His message to fit His audience—He spoke differently to the Pharisees than He did to the disciples or to the crowds. The truth never changed, but His tone and examples did. He met people where they were. Your writing should do the same. Another common mistake is thinking your story is for everyone. When we write to everyone, we often end up writing to no one—our message becomes too broad to pierce the hearts it’s meant to reach. God doesn’t call us to reach everyone; He calls us to reach the ones He’s assigned to us.

For example: If your testimony involves overcoming spiritual or emotional abuse by someone within the church, your audience might not be “women of faith” in general. It could be young women aged 15–21 who have experienced trauma from someone they trusted spiritually—those who feel unheard, unsafe, or uncertain about their faith.

That kind of focus doesn’t narrow your impact—it multiplies it. It ensures your story lands exactly where God intends it to: in the hands of those who need it most.

As you define your audience, write down:

- Who they are (age, gender, faith background)
- What they’re struggling with
- What questions they’re asking God
- How you can help them find hope, healing, or clarity through your story

Once you know who you’re writing for, you’ll find your tone, structure, and message start falling into place naturally.

TIP #2: DECIDE WHAT KIND OF TESTIMONY YOU'RE WRITING



Every story has a heartbeat—but not every testimony needs to look the same. Before you begin, ask yourself: What form best fits my message, and the readers God is calling me to reach?

Your testimony can be told through memoir, fiction, devotional, or teaching-style writing. Each offers a different way to glorify God and reach specific audiences.

1. Memoir: A Transparent Journey

If your goal is to show readers exactly how God brought you through something, memoir may be the best fit. Memoirs invite readers to walk beside you—to feel your struggles, your lessons, and your breakthroughs. They work best when they blend raw honesty with clear spiritual insight.

Examples:

- *I Will Always Write Back* by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda — a story of connection and generosity that illustrates global compassion and faith in action.
- *Uninvited* by Lysa TerKeurst — a transparent account of rejection and God's healing, written with conversational warmth.
- *The Wait* by Devon Franklin and Meagan Good — blending personal story and spiritual principles to show faith in relationships.

“God can use memoir, fiction, or devotion—but only you can tell the story He gave you.”

2. Fiction: A Story That Mirrors Truth

Fiction can also carry testimony—just in disguise. Sometimes readers who would never pick up a devotional will eagerly read a novel that shows God’s power through character and plot.

Examples:

- *Redeeming Love* by Francine Rivers — a retelling of Hosea’s story through historical romance.
- *The Shack* by William P. Young — exploring forgiveness and the nature of God through allegory.
- *The Masterpiece* by Francine Rivers — weaving trauma, redemption, and grace into contemporary fiction.

When you choose fiction, think about which biblical truth or lived experience you want to reflect. You’re still testifying—you’re just using story as the vessel.

3. Devotional or Teaching Book: A Guided Reflection

If your message includes practical lessons or Scriptures readers can apply to their own journey, a devotional or teaching-style book may fit best. These often weave short testimonies with actionable steps, prayer prompts, or journaling space.

Examples:

- *Don’t Settle for Safe* by Sarah Jakes Roberts — part storytelling, part life coaching.
- *100 Days of Believing Bigger* by Marshawn Evans Daniels — daily reflections rooted in identity and purpose.
- *Battlefield of the Mind* by Joyce Meyer — instructional teaching laced with personal examples.

Ask Yourself:

- What is the main message I want readers to walk away with?
- Do I want to inspire, equip, or teach?
- Which format will allow me to stay authentic to my calling and comfortable in my storytelling voice?

Remember—God can use any genre to reveal His glory. What matters is that you write truthfully, intentionally, and with love.

TIP #3 – DETERMINE YOUR TONE AND VOICE



Your tone is the sound of your calling—it's how readers experience you on the page.

If your goal is to eventually teach, speak, or lead through conferences, it's essential that your written voice and your spoken voice match. When people meet you in person, they should instantly recognize the same heart, rhythm, and energy they felt while reading your book.

Consistency builds connection.

If your book sounds poetic but you speak with powerful directness, readers may feel a disconnect when they encounter you later. On the other hand, if your written and spoken voices align, readers will feel like they already know you—which builds trust and opens doors for ministry, mentoring, and influence.

The key? **Be authentically you.**

Don't try to sound like your favorite author, pastor, or influencer. Write the way you speak when your passion is stirred—when you're comforting a friend, encouraging a sister, or testifying about God's goodness.

“When readers hear you speak, they should recognize the voice that wrote to their hearts.”

How Tone Shapes Connection

Here’s how the same message—

“Get up. Choose life. You don’t have to die here.”

—can sound depending on your natural voice and purpose:

The Pastor’s Voice (*Encouraging & Authoritative*):

“Get up, beloved. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in you. You don’t have to die here.”

The Big Sister or Mentor Voice (*Conversational & Relatable*):

“Sis, get up. I know you’re tired, but this isn’t where your story ends. Choose life—there’s still purpose in you.”

The Coach or Speaker Voice (*Motivational & Direct*):

“Get up! Choose life today. This is not your final chapter—move forward with faith and fire.”

The Devotional Writer’s Voice (*Reflective & Gentle*):

“In every valley, God whispers, ‘Get up. Choose life.’ Even here, He’s reminding you—you don’t have to die in this place.”

Each version carries the same truth, but the tone changes who it reaches and how it lands.

Write in the Voice You’ll Speak In

As you write, imagine sitting across from your reader. What tone do they need to hear from you?

If they need comfort, write with gentleness.

If they need courage, write with boldness.

If they need direction, write with clarity and structure.

Above all, remember: your written voice is your ministry’s introduction. Let it sound like the real you—honest, consistent, and led by the Spirit.

TIP #4: START WITH A SIMPLE OUTLINE

Outlining isn't about restricting creativity — it's about giving revelation a roadmap. When you know where your story is headed, you can move forward in confidence, leaving room for the Holy Spirit to guide your words along the way.

Think of your outline as a ministry plan for your message. Each chapter becomes a moment of transformation — for you and your reader. The goal is to lead readers through your testimony in a way that draws them in, helps them see themselves in your story, and builds faith that the same God who kept you is willing and able to keep them.

Your story should be practical (so they can apply it), applicable (so they can see themselves in it), and powerful (so their faith grows as they turn each page).

Below is a simple 10-chapter structure to help you map it out.

Introduction: Who You Are and Why You're Writing

Start by introducing yourself — not your résumé, but your reason.

What moved you to write this story? What transformation do you want your reader to experience by the end?

Set expectations here: “This isn't just my story; it's an invitation for you to believe again.”

Chapter 1: Set the Scene

Begin with impact. Start at a high point — a dramatic or emotionally gripping moment that captures the reader's attention.

Don't be afraid of a little “holy drama.” It doesn't have to be sensational, but it should make readers lean in.

Maybe this is the night you hit rock bottom, the moment you heard God's voice for the first time, or the situation that changed everything.

You can always move backward or forward in time later — right now, your mission is to grab their heart.

Chapters 2–8: Build the Journey

This is where your story breathes. Take readers deeper into your experience — not just what happened, but what you felt, learned, and lost.

Each chapter should pull them a little closer to both your struggle and God’s sustaining grace.

For example:

If Chapter 1 introduces the first time you used drugs, the next chapters might explore how addiction took hold, what it cost you, and the moments when God’s hand quietly kept you from destruction.

Sprinkle wisdom throughout — revelations you didn’t recognize then but can articulate now. Remember, your goal isn’t to glorify pain — it’s to glorify the One who delivered you from it.

Chapter 9: The Climax

Here comes the breakthrough. This is the moment where everything that could go wrong did — and God showed up.

Maybe it’s the day you overdosed, the night you almost lost everything, or the moment someone you loved called you out of darkness.

Whatever it was, this chapter should pulse with desperation, surrender, and divine intervention. It’s the turning point — the “but God” moment that transforms your story from tragedy to testimony.

Chapter 10: The New Normal

Every testimony needs a resurrection. This final chapter shows what life looks like after redemption — how you’ve changed, what peace feels like now, and how you’re walking with God in freedom.

Close strong:

- What lessons do you want your readers to take away?
- What practical steps can they apply to their own healing?
- What encouragement do you want to leave echoing in their hearts?

This is your power-packed finale — your benediction to the reader.

TIP #5: PARTNER WITH A PURPOSE-DRIVEN EDITOR

Writing your testimony is sacred work. You're not just telling a story — you're stewarding what God has done in your life.

That's why you need an editor who values your message as much as your mechanics — someone who can help you shape your words without silencing your voice.

At Joseph Editorial Services, my focus is on helping faith-based authors share their stories with excellence, integrity, and impact. I don't just polish sentences — I help you find clarity, flow, and confidence while honoring your message and maintaining your authenticity.

My **Sample Edit** is the perfect way to experience what this partnership looks like. It includes a free 15-minute consultation where we'll discuss your goals, your manuscript, and what kind of editorial support will help you most.

During your sample edit, I'll review a short section of your book, identify what's working, and highlight areas to strengthen — giving you a clear roadmap for moving forward.



Why It Matters

Having the right editor on your team isn't just about grammar — it's about growth.

A skilled, Spirit-led editor helps you:

- Strengthen your storytelling while protecting your message
- Develop your writing skills for future projects
- Gain confidence that your words represent your calling well

Your story deserves to shine with both excellence and anointing. Let's make sure it does.

👉 *Book your Sample Edit & Consultation here:*

<https://josepheditorialservices.com/#sample-edit>

This small step can save you months of frustration and help you see your story through fresh, professional eyes.

Marcia Lewis

"I am so excited to leave this review! I trusted Megan Joseph with my life and she saved me. I wrote a memoir about my journey with cancer and she took my very flawed manuscript and created a book. If God leads me to write again, I will definitely call Megan again."

Kashmire Kay

"Megan Joseph is a whole powerhouse that every writer needs in their literary arsenal. You need someone like her in your corner. I was new to writing like this, and Megan had the patience of Job with me. She didn't just edit my book—she gave it a heartbeat. Honestly, God sent her. My book wouldn't be what it is without her."

Delicia McIntyre

"You taught me how to write. I could barely string together a complete thought, let alone understand dialogue tags, action tags, or showing vs. telling. You're more than an editor, you're a woman of God, a teacher, a friend, and the GOAT of editing."

LET'S BRING YOUR STORY TO LIFE

If God placed this story in your heart, it's because someone else needs freedom through it.

That reader—the one who will see themselves in your words, who will cry tears of recognition, who will find courage to believe again—is waiting for you to write. Don't wait until you “feel ready.” None of us ever do.

God perfects what you begin in faith. Start where you are—with the words you have—and trust that He'll meet you in the writing.

You don't have to do this alone.

You're not just writing a book; you're building a bridge. And I would love to help you make sure that bridge is strong enough to carry the weight of your message and the hearts of your readers.

At Joseph Editorial Services, I come alongside faith-based authors like you to bring clarity, structure, and confidence to your manuscripts—without stripping away your authenticity or your anointing.

“He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion.” — Philippians 1:6



If you're ready to turn your testimony into a powerful, publish-ready story, I invite you to take the next step.

✨ Book your free 15-minute consultation and receive a sample edit of your work:



www.JosephEditorialServices.com/#sample-edit

During our time together, we'll discuss your vision, review a short excerpt of your book, and identify the best way to elevate your story's flow, emotional impact, and spiritual resonance.

Your words can change lives—including your own.

Let's bring your God-given story from draft to done, and from your heart to the hands that need it most.

At Joseph Editorial Services, I help authors bring clarity, confidence, and excellence to their writing. My mission is simple: to help you write the book God placed on your heart—without losing your voice or your message.

With a prayerful, purpose-driven approach, I provide editing and coaching that strengthen both your manuscript and your mindset as a writer.

Whether you're crafting a memoir, devotional, or faith-based fiction story, I'll walk with you every step of the way—helping you refine your structure, deepen your message, and present your work with professional polish.

“Write the vision, and make it plain.” — Habakkuk 2:2

How I Help

- Manuscript Evaluations: Clear, actionable feedback to help you strengthen story flow, character, and message.
- Full Editing Services: Developmental, line, and copy editing that preserve your unique voice while elevating every page.
- Coaching & Consultations: Guidance, strategy, and accountability for writers ready to finish strong.
-

Every story is an assignment. My goal is to make sure yours is completed with excellence and grace.



Let's Connect

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If you found value in this guide, I'd love to hear from you! Share how it helped or tag me when you start writing your testimony—I'd love to cheer you on.