

HOW TO DISTRIBUTE TESTIMONIES

1- School grounds: Children are naturally curious and uninhibited. They will pick up something and look it over. If it has an illustration and title that capture that curiosity, they will open it and read the first couple of lines. If those capture their interest, they will read more. Moreover, children are teachable and more responsive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

2- Elevators: If you see a piece of paper laying on an elevator floor, it has an interesting illustration and title, and you're alone, there is no embarrassment in satisfying your curiosity and picking it up. Leave testimonies on elevator floors. Apartment building elevators are excellent because they are seldom crowded.

3- Curiosity: Prepare your testimony as a personal letter. Insert it in an envelope — preferably non-letter size, with just a name or short message on the front: "Thought you'd like to know," or a fictitious name, or something like "from Jack," or just "FYI." The idea here is to get someone curious enough to check it out. The title and first few words will grab their attention.

4- Car windshields get advertisements for all kinds of things. The same can be done for testimonies. They will be particularly interesting if there is a variety of different ones in different colors. People will look at what is on other windshields. You might like to stay around and watch the reactions.

5- Handbills are often left on porches. Testimonies can be distributed like handbills. Try to carry a variety. If people see different colors on doors, they can create conversations and sharing.

6- Visitations: One of the neatest uses is to distribute door-to-door with an introduction to a local church. This can be done during visitations. When you are speaking to people about the love of God it is good to leave an example or two.

7- Bills: Testimonies can be sent with payments, orders, requests and suggestions. Well written testimonies may be kept by their recipient and shared with family and close friends. Often the recipient will think, I know someone who needs to read this.

9- Stores: Leave them in grocery and variety store carts.

10- Where people pause: Leave them in phone booths, and on top of newspaper vending machines.

11- Business offices: They can be taken door-to-door in office buildings and handed to secretaries. "Here's some good news."

12- Invitations to weddings, parties and social events can carry short appropriate testimonies. Here is a great opportunity to strike common ground.

13- Bus stops are one of the best. A variety can be fanned and left on the seats of covered bus stops. They can be curled and left between the rungs of open benches. Something to read is especially welcome here because people are prepared to be bored. Testimonies will usually be picked up and carried on the bus. They may then be left on the seats and get a second read. People who are waiting for busses. welcome something being handed to them.

14- Waiting places: Wherever people must pause or wait: airports, laundromats, court waiting rooms, auto repair waiting rooms. There are a lot of hurting people in bus stations, hospitals, drug treatment centers, loan offices and in law offices.

15- Public conveniences are good because people can pick them up privately without fear of seeming "un-cool."

16- Thank-you notes: Thank people for their kindness often. And enclose a short testimony of God's kindness, perhaps adding thoughts like: "I pray that God will remember your kindness to me." or, "I will pass your kindness along so that others may benefit. Thank you from all of us."

17- Libraries: Place a testimony beside you at the library. When you leave, leave it on the table. Someone will pick it up. perhaps. the Lord will see to it that a librarian reads it and turns to Jesus. Wouldn't it be a national blessing to have Christian librarians all over the country?

18- Restaurants: Be kind to your waitress. Leave a generous tip and a testimony. You can hand testimonies to

waitresses with a short comment such as, "Here's something that will give you a boost."

19- Colleges have bulletin boards where students and teachers post announcements and items for the taking. This is a good way to get a lot of testimonies out quickly. You can wander through a campus, leaving testimonies on benches, picnic tables and in the student hall. You can hand them to students with a short comment like, "Here's something to consider:" Generally they begin reading them immediately. That's the great God given quality of curiosity at work.

20- Change the title to something that sounds more like an assignment or a thesis. insert them into a brown envelope and leave them on school benches. Leave a collection of 8-1/2 x 11 testimonies in an unmarked file folder. They may be read by a number of young people and could start a lot of conversation. Leave these in libraries, museums and trade shows.

21- Where kids walk: You can leave testimonies anywhere around high schools and wherever kids will see them.

22- Public trails used for hiking and exercising: You can leave them on the ground or where people stop to rest. You can leave them on lawns under trees, wherever they can be seen and draw on their curiosity .

23- Office buildings: Leave testimonies at the entrances to banks and office buildings while they are closed. People who come into work early will be the first to see them unless one of the janitors picks them up. Leave them in places where people pause, pay bills and stop for lunch.

24- Automobile windshields: This is the most efficient way of distributing many testimonies. Leave two very different stories on each window, behind the wiper.

25- To other evangelistic ministries, such prison visitation groups and chaplains and Youth With a Mission. These groups can distribute large quantities of materials very effectively.

26-Book stores: Many book stores will place them on their counter or bag them with customer purchases.

27- Bible study groups: Most people who are serious Christians will take at least a few and distribute them

A THOUSAND FOLD

Ben Maestas turned to Jesus after rereading a written testimony he'd been carrying for two years. He was miraculously delivered from drugs after 40 years of

*...all this from a worn testimony kept in a
any political action. A single person
wallet for two years
of low estate can thus be the
instrument of God to turn the heart of
the lofty.*

addiction and 20 years of prison time.

Now he visits the places he knows best: jails and prisons. He hands out testimonies every where he goes, even to a man who ran into his car, at every division of the mortuary where he works.

Ben says the harvest is ripe at welfare offices and drug clinics: wherever people are hurting.

They all want to get out of the drug programs and off the drugs, but feel there is no hope. A few of those who have turned to Christ are going to Ben's church and have started a street ministry. Hundreds of testimonies have been handed out to hurting people.

Ben sends testimonies to acquaintances who also distribute them in their work places and on the streets— wherever they go.

According to Ben's experience, the best way to distribute testimonies is to just hand them to people. My experience has been the same. When you approach someone and give them something to read, they read it right away. If you offer them other testimonies they will usually take them .

Bottom line? People like to read about miracles. They want something fulfilling in their lives. They need assurances and hunger for hope. A little testimony is often exactly what they are looking for. The weak of this world may thus bless the mighty.

I haven't seen anything more powerful..

Sometimes you get to see the results. A few days ago, I received a beautiful card and a note from a woman, saying that the testimony I sent to her was just the right thing at just the right time. A few days later we had a conversation. She told how that testimony brought both her and her sons closer to God. She is an admittance clerk at a medical office. that's how I met her.

Everyone is an opportunity for The Holy Spirit. Reading about God's intervention in the lives of other people brings the reality of God's love and grace to them and points the direction to hope, fulfillment, healing, joy and life. A small piece of paper can be the greatest gift they have ever received.

We'd like to hear about your experiences with testimonies. What methods have you used? What is your church doing to distribute testimonies? Usually we don't get to see the result. So if you have a story to tell, if you have seen results. we'd like to know about it.

We would also like to suggest you watch the testimonies

you distribute, if possible and let us know what you observe. Anything you can tell us will be greatly appreciated.

THE WORD OF OUR TESTIMONY

303-989-8212

FAX 303 942-8182

1633 So. Yukon Street

Lakewood, CO 80232

testimony@olsonhouse.org