

August 9, 2026



Sermon Notes

Acts 26:19–32 (ESV)

¹⁹“Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,

²⁰but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance.

²¹For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me.

²²To this day I have had the help that comes from God, and so I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass:

²³that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.”

²⁴And as he was saying these things in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, “Paul, you are out of your mind; your great learning is driving you out of your mind.”

²⁵But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking true and rational words.

²⁶For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak boldly. For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner.

²⁷King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.”

²⁸And Agrippa said to Paul, “In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?”

²⁹And Paul said, “Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am—except for these chains.”

³⁰Then the king rose, and the governor and Bernice and those who were sitting with them.

³¹And when they had withdrawn, they said to one another, “This man is doing nothing to deserve death or imprisonment.”

³²And Agrippa said to Festus, “This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar.”

(Answer key located on the last page)

BIG IDEA: Your personal story of faith is a powerful tool for ministry. It can break down barriers that arguments cannot break, and it can open eyes that sermons alone cannot open. Every believer is called to share their testimony boldly — and in doing so, to give God the glory.

I. TESTIMONY IS A TURNING POINT — Acts 26:19–23

1. Paul tells King Agrippa that he was not disobedient to the heavenly _____ — the real appearance of Jesus to him on the Damascus road.

2. In the original language, "disobedient" describes someone who refuses to be _____ .

3. From that day, Paul's message everywhere was the same: repent and turn to _____ .

Application: This week, ask who has actually watched you change. Then go tell them why.

II. TESTIMONY TAKES TENACITY — Acts 26:24–27

1. Right in the middle of Paul's testimony, Festus interrupts him and accuses him of being out of his _____ .

2. Paul stays steady because he has "obtained help from God" — a word that pictures a _____ fighting alongside you in battle.

3. Tenacity means you keep telling the truth _____ , even when someone in the room tries to make you feel small for it.

Application: This week, name one person who's laughed off your faith. Have a sentence ready — even just, "I know it sounds strange, but this is what happened to me."

III. TESTIMONY TRIGGERS TRANSFORMATION —

Acts 26:28–32

1. Agrippa asks Paul, "In a short time would you persuade me to be a _____ ?"

2. Our testimony is not responsible for closing the deal — it's responsible for planting the _____ .

3. Paul reminds us elsewhere: "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the _____ " (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

Application: This week, commit to praying by name, regularly, for one person you've shared your faith with who hasn't responded.

PERSONAL REFLECTION:

What is your own "turning point" story? Who has never heard it in your life?

Answer Key

I. Testimony Is a Turning Point

vision | persuaded | God

II. Testimony Takes Tenacity

mind | military ally | calmly

III. Testimony Triggers Transformation

Christian | seed | growth

The Good News

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1)

The Bad News

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
(Romans 3:23)

The Ugly News

For the wages of sin is death, ... (Romans 6:23a)

The Great News

... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Romans 6:23a)

Guess What?

You can become a Christian right now and experience salvation and the gift of eternal life through God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ! Simply Pray this Prayer Right Now! **"God thank you for Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins.**

Thank you for receiving what Jesus did for me on the cross as payment for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins. Right now I accept Jesus into my heart and ask that he become my Savior and Lord! Amen!"

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. (Romans 10:9–10)

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