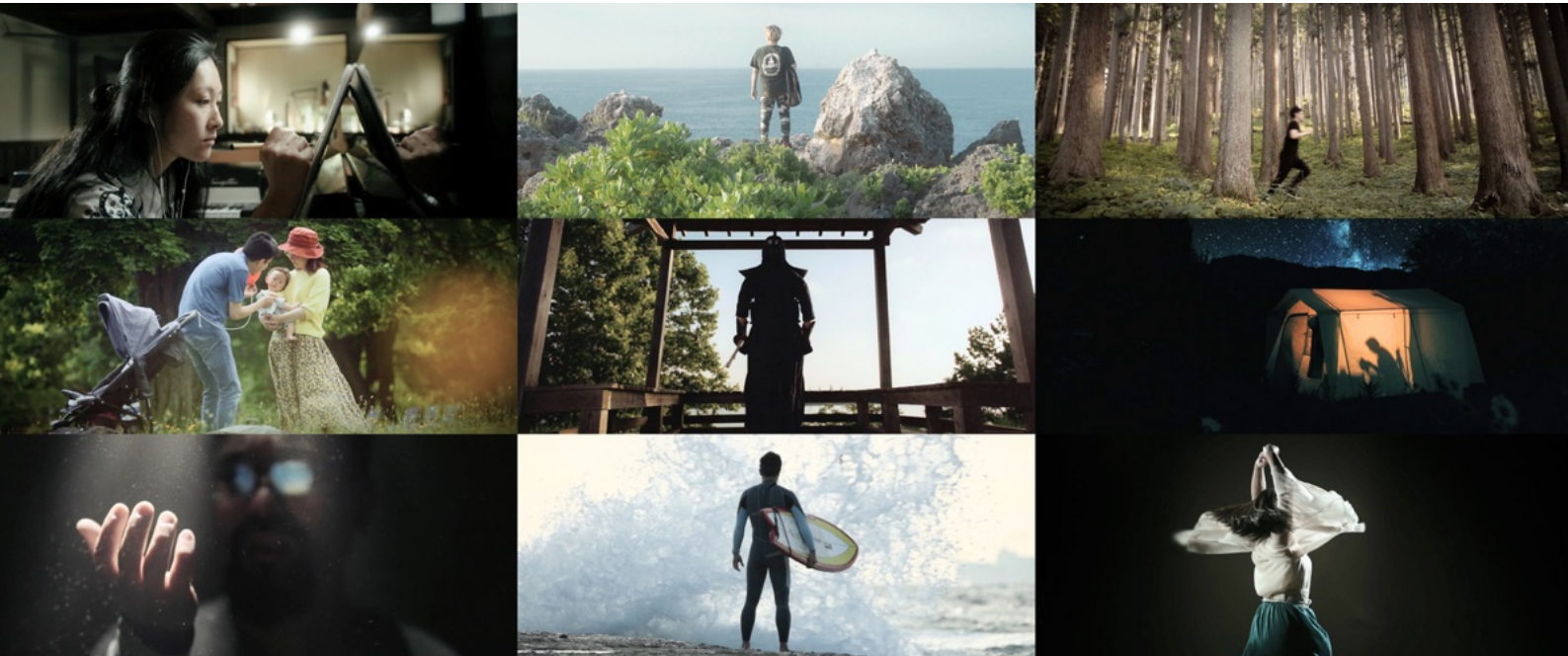


TESTIMONY GUIDELINES



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WELCOME AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST!

**"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good tidings,
making peace heard; who brings good news, making salvation heard"**

- Isaiah 52:7

THEGOODNEWS testimony films are made to support churches, ministries and individuals with evangelism resources. All films are made available as a free resource and can be downloaded from thegoodnews.jp website.

Please review the requirements in this guideline document before submitting your testimony. Following these guidelines will also ensure that a wider audience can use the testimonies, without the concern of endorsing a specific belief or denomination.

THEGOODNEWS stories focus on:

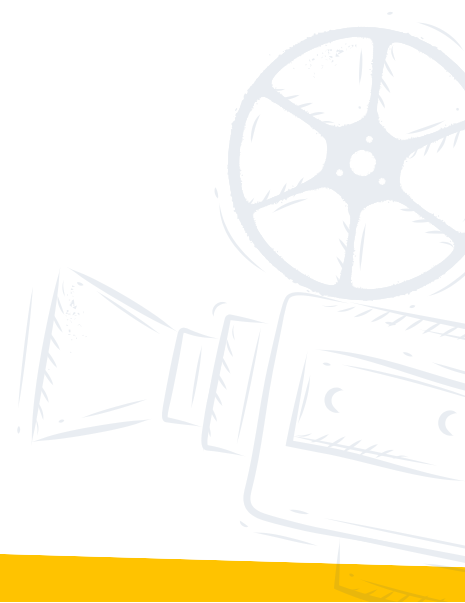
- Non-Christian Japanese audience
- Stories that happened inside Japan
- Stories that communicate well, avoids religious terminology or jargon, and steers clear from personal opinions and teachings



Stories will mainly be filmed in Kanto region, although other regions might be considered, depending on the nature of a story.

All stories need to follow the following guidelines:

- Relate to the topics listed
- Align with Biblical teachings
- Meet the required length of 3-6 minutes.
- Avoid attacking other religions/beliefs/groups





PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Be an active member at a Bible based church and attend fellowship on a regular basis
- Able to submit a reference letter from your pastor/ministry leader when required (this will only be required if your testimony is approved for the next step)
- Agree to the general [Apostles Creed \(link\)](#)
- Sign THEGOODNEWS Model Release form
- Be comfortable having your face on video and the internet.

**Your personal information such as name, contact details, church etc will not be shared publicly.*

We all go through different stages in life and may not walk in victory yet in certain areas. If you feel that you are still struggling a lot with a specific sin, like addiction, please refrain from applying. We thank you for your understanding, as we try to honor the name of the Lord and the body of Christ. May we all enjoy full freedom in Christ!



TESTIMONY REQUIREMENTS

- Testimony should be in Japanese.
- In order for a testimony to be considered for approval, it should have a maximum duration of 3-6min (comfortable spoken tempo). This accounts for a Japanese written script with a character count of between 900-1800 maximum. THEGOODNEWS team will work with you to narrow it down to a 3-5min length.
- Testimonies should not contain:
 - Political points of view or references.
 - Any personal information (name, address, ministry details).
 - Names or specific details of other people, cults, entities, companies, brands, etc.
 - Names or specific information of ministries, organizations, churches, denominations.

**References to places can be used in a general sense, such as Shinjuku station, Yoyogi park, Tokyo, a friend's house, a church.*



FILMING REQUIREMENTS

- 2-3 meetings for planning purposes (in-person or video call)
- 2-3 full days of filming (continuous or on different days)
- THEGOODNEWS team does fundraising to cover most production costs, but it would be helpful if personal costs such as food and transport can be covered. THEGOODNEWS will fundraise and assist when travel and accommodation is required for filming outside of Kanto.

TESTIMONY STYLES

There are mainly 2 ways in which testimony can be written and you can choose which one works best for your story.

STYLE 1

This includes sharing your salvation story, how you got to know God and how it changed the way in which you faced challenges.

STYLE 2

This style doesn't mention your salvation, but focuses on your journey with God to overcome a specific challenge.

TESTIMONY TOPICS

Our team is looking for stories with one or more of the following themes:

- **IDENTITY/ACCEPTANCE**
- **PURPOSE/MEANING**
- **FEAR/ANXIETY**
- **STRESS**
- **WORK/SOCIAL PRESSURE**
- **RELATIONSHIPS**
- **HAPPINESS/FULFILMENT**

These can also include social issues that resulted from the above, such as addiction, suicide, bullying, hikikomori etc.

HOW TO WRITE YOUR TESTIMONY

Decide on the heart of your story - what would you like people to remember after seeing your testimony?

Next, be truthful and honest to yourself about your story. Good stories have the human factor in them about hope, vulnerability, needs, strengths, successes, failures. When we open up, the people viewing our stories will also open up.

Try to refrain from difficult Christian and Biblical words and concepts, as it might make non-Christians feel uncomfortable or simply confuse them.

Using a 3-point layout will help you to more easily remember your story and help viewers to follow as it unfolds. Some of the notes on the following page will assist you in writing your story.



1 BACKGROUND STORY

This section gives a little bit of perspective and context for people to understand more about your old life and sets the stage for the rest of your story:

- What was my life like before getting to know Jesus?
 - What were my dreams or challenges?
 - What was missing in my life (physically or spiritually)?
 - What did I try to do to overcome or fix it?
-

2 TURNING POINT

This section explains why and how things changed in your life:

- What circumstances, events, person etc. triggered the change?
 - How did it happen?
 - What did I feel like when it happened?
 - What impact did it have on me?
 - How did others react?
-

3 NEW LIFE WITH JESUS

This section explains about your life after salvation.

- How am I different from before?
 - How did it influence/change/solve the challenges/problems I had?
 - What impact did it have on the people around me?
 - What is life like today and how do I keep on growing/developing?
 - What is my new-found purpose/dream?
-

Please watch one of the following testimonies as an inspiration for sharing short stories.

Film 1 - [神を探し求めている](#)

Film 2 - [心の穴を埋めたもの](#)

Film 3 - [永遠に変えられた人生](#)

We thank you for reading our testimony guideline! Our team is praying for you and hope you will also prayerfully consider submitting your story.

All testimonies we receive will go through a selection and approval process. We will contact you to confirm whether or not your testimony has been selected for filming!

THEGOODNEWS team commits to using the films for the purpose of spreading the gospel and hope to share God's stories as far and wide as possible!

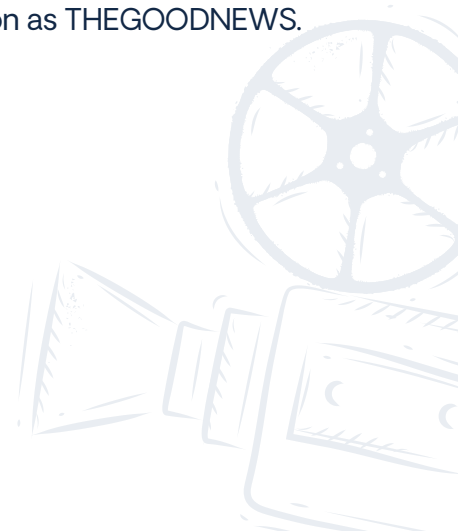


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THEGOODNEWS Team

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