

Key Scripture:

2 Timothy 1:8 NKJV

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord

Unexpected Voice from Heaven

Acts 22:1,4-7 NLT

1 "Brothers and esteemed fathers," Paul said, "listen to me as I offer my defense."

4 And I persecuted the followers of the Way, hounding some to death, arresting both men and women and throwing them in prison. 5 The high priest and the whole council of elders can testify that this is so. For I received letters from them to our Jewish brothers in Damascus, authorizing me to bring the Christians from there to Jerusalem, in chains, to be punished. 6 "As I was on the road, approaching Damascus about noon, a very bright light from heaven suddenly shone down around me. 7 I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?'

How to be heard as an unexpected voice.

✓ Speak in a way people can understand.

Acts 22:2 NLT

When they heard him speaking in their own language, the silence was even greater.

√ Find **common** ground.

Acts 22:3 NLT

Then Paul said, "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, and I was brought up and educated here in Jerusalem under Gamaliel.

As his student, I was carefully trained in our Jewish laws and customs.

I became very zealous to honor God in everything I did, just like all of you today.

✓ Jesus can change anybody.

Acts 9:13-15 NLT

13 "But Lord," exclaimed Ananias, "I've heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! 14 And he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name."

15 But the Lord said, "Go, for Saul is My chosen instrument

to take My message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel.

Notes:			

My Testimony

Unexpected Voice

How to be an unexpected voice for Jesus...

1. Seek – Let the Lord to reveal Himself to you.

Acts 22:6-8 NLT

6 "As I was on the road, approaching Damascus about noon, a very bright light from heaven suddenly shone down around me.

7 I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me,

'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?' 8 ""Who are you, lord?" I asked.
"And the voice replied, "I am Jesus the Nazarene, the one you are persecuting."

Acts 17:27 NLT

"His purpose was for the nations to <u>seek after God</u> and <u>perhaps feel their way toward Him and find Him—</u>
though He is not far from any one of us.

2. <u>Surrender</u> – be willing to let the Lord change your life.

Acts 22:10 NLT

"I asked, 'What should I do, Lord?'
"And the Lord told me, 'Get up and go into Damascus, and there you will be told everything you are to do.'

3. Share – tell everyone about the goodness of God.

Acts 22:11-16 NLT

11 "I was blinded by the intense light and had to be led by the hand to Damascus by my companions. 12 A man named Ananias lived there. He was a godly man, deeply devoted to the law, and well regarded by all the Jews of Damascus. 13 He came and stood beside me and said, 'Brother Saul, regain your sight.' And that very moment I could see him!

14 "Then he told me, 'The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know His will and to see the Righteous One and hear Him speak. 15 For you are to be His witness, telling everyone what you have seen and heard. 16 What are you waiting for? Get up and be baptized.

Have your sins washed away by calling on the name of the Lord.'

Notes:	 	 	

An encounter with God today...will be your testimony for others tomorrow.