

Extending Time

“But the word of God continued to increase and spread.” Acts 12:24 (NIV)

In sharing a testimony, one of the most difficult aspects is to be limited by time restrictions. A few years ago I was given ninety seconds at a church service in Virginia to do the following: share about Ramah’s ministry, educate on post-abortion trauma, offer the hope of healing to the wounded.

The task seemed impossible given the time allowed and I admit to being frustrated. I’m glad the speaking wasn’t up to me that day or the results would have been disastrous. Thankfully, God spoke through me quickly, succinctly, and within the time constraints.

Later I asked God about this seemingly useless speaking engagement. I couldn’t comprehend what could have been accomplished in such a short amount of time. Why did I have to fly so far from home for only 90 seconds? I didn’t receive any answers but felt that He clearly had a plan that I didn’t understand at the moment. It was time to trust Him.

Seven months later I returned to that city to speak at a crisis pregnancy center’s banquet. A woman who had earlier shared a testimony about how her baby was saved from abortion approached me afterwards. She asked if I had spoken at a local church several months earlier. I quickly responded, “Yes -- for about 90 seconds.” Her response humbled me. She said, “Well, I don’t know how long you spoke but I had an abortion scheduled for the next day. After hearing your story, I couldn’t do it and called this center for help. I think my son is one of ‘your’ babies!”

As I held her little boy I promised the Lord to never wonder about time constraints again! Clearly His word, through our voices, can be expanded beyond anything we can imagine.