

1. Hi, my name is **Lalique Plante**. Before Christ my life seemed very difficult and nothing ever went right. When my husband was deployed to Afghanistan and I never felt so sad and alone. Two weeks later I found out I was pregnant. Right then and there, I realized that I had to trust the Lord alone for my salvation. Since I have accepted Christ I know no matter how hard things get I will always have Christ in my heart and no one can take that away from me.
2. Hello. My name is **Paul Yocum**. Before Christ, I was very materialistic, angry, and had obsessive thoughts and actions. When I took the step to join Alcoholics Anonymous, I felt the spirit of Christ awaken me. Now that I have accepted Christ, I have the ability to avoid major pitfalls in my life and have a clear and strong sense of direction. Most of all, I have continued growth and serenity in the word of God.
3. Hi, my name is **Katie Corbett**. I spent the first 30 years of my life in darkness. My husband told me about Jesus before we got married and shortly thereafter I gave my life to Christ. Jesus has changed every aspect of my life. I am eternally grateful that he has brought me to him and continues to shape me on a daily basis. My only desire in life is to obey and follow Jesus.
4. Hello. My name is **Darren Kelly**. Before I accepted Christ, I was stuck in a horrible addiction, a vicious cycle. I was trying to do things my own way and it was not working. About 3 months ago I gave in to Christ completely and fully. Christ has made such a difference in my life. I feel more at peace and not alone anymore. I want to totally submit my life to Christ and start with a clean slate.
5. Hello, my name is **Don Clauson**. I was baptized as an infant. I was an out of control, hyper kid. I had great parents that were very patient with me and encouraged me to attend church. When I was in Jr high, a staff member from church led me to the Lord. That was a GREAT day. In 40 years of following Jesus, I met and married a Godly woman, have two Godly kids who married believers, and a grandchild. The Lord always meets my needs in everyway. I want to have a believer's baptism today.
6. Hi, my name is **Laura Clauson**. I was raised in a Catholic home and followed the faith of my parents as a child. As a teenager, I began to question those beliefs and make my faith something personal. In college I made a personal commitment to follow Christ. Over the last 35 years, my journey with the Lord has strengthened my faith while walking through several life trials. God has proved faithful and stood by me in the darkest and most confusing times of my

life. I praise God that He is never changing and loves me no matter what. I want to rededicate myself to Him and be baptized.

7. Hello. My name is **Michelle Farias**. Although I accepted Christ as my Savior at 12, I made many decisions that have hurt me and others, and I had a hard time finding a sense of peace and purpose. I was diagnosed with cancer one year ago. During my treatment, I realized I have always tried to control things and I have never really trusted. I am now trusting in God more, and am getting baptized today as an external representation of an internal change.

8. My name is **Christopher Aguilar**. Before Christ, I abused drugs and alcohol, and a heavy depression consumed my life. The Satanic lifestyle I was living left me with nothing but self-hatred, sin, and the ultimate realization that Satan is a liar. Five years ago I decided to give myself to Christ and I repented for my sins. I am getting baptized today because I am convinced this is what Jesus wants. I am fully committing myself to the Lord.

9. Hi. My name is **Maria Aguilar**. Before Christ, my life was filled with chaos, sadness, emptiness, and my heart was broken. After my divorce, I called on Him and He led me to CA. I realized I was never alone, and He was always there for me. Today, I have found peace in my heart. He has healed my broken heart and spirit. I am getting baptized today because I feel that this is what God is calling me to do.

10. Hi. My name is **Margaret Gruss**. I grew up in the Catholic Church and never really knew much about having a personal relationship with Christ. 26 years ago I went on a retreat and it was there that I first saw and felt the love of Christ. I knew immediately that Jesus was what I had been looking for all my life. Jesus has been so faithful to heal me, love me, and bless me. I am getting baptized today because after hearing Tom's message last week I felt it was time to make my own decision to get baptized.

11. Hello. My name is **Samuel Hurtado**. Before Christ, I was living for the flesh. I gave my life to Christ on May 6, 2010 – the anniversary of my oldest brother's death. I now know that when I die I will be able to see my brother again in heaven. Today, I no longer live in the flesh. I want to be a positive role model for my kids. I am getting baptized today because last week's service really encouraged me to make the decision to get baptized.

12. Hello. My name is **Mabel Hayek**. I started trusting Christ as a child. Ever since I can remember, my father taught us the Bible. In my early teens, I really started to have a better understanding of salvation through Christ. I have always known Him to be my one and only Savior. I am getting baptized today because I have never been baptized and I know this will be a life-changing experience.

13. Hi, my name is **Kalani Redmayne**. I've been a Christian for 15 years. For most of those years, I've had 2 thoughts about baptism 1) I was christened as a baby so I should be covered and 2) Baptism was just another religious ritual. In the last few months I've realized that baptism isn't just for babies and it's so much more than just a religious ritual. It's an expression of my commitment to God and my wholehearted submission to him. Last week I prayed that God would present an opportunity that would allow me to pursue being baptized, and that it be very clear! I realized when Tom started speaking this was an answer to prayer. Today I am ready to submit everything I have, everything I love and every part of me to the Lord.

1. Hello, my name is **Mark Kuklinski**. My life before Christ was full of sin: drugs, gangs, prison, violence, and crime. I was lost and without any direction and or hope for my life. My pride was not allowing me to surrender and I had lost all hope. My decision to follow Christ has given me hope, peace and the opportunity to raise my daughter as a Christ follower. I am finally surrendering my life wholeheartedly over to God in faith.
2. Hi, my name is **Elicia Walker**. I accepted Christ to be my personal Savior when I was 11 yrs old. After a failed marriage to my high school sweetheart, I lost my way and walked away from Christ and the church. When I lost myself deeply into drugs and nearly lost my life to domestic violence, I realized this was not the life God had chosen for me. God promised me He would restore all that had been lost and broken in my life. I am now sober, happily married and have a beautiful 9 month old daughter. I want to rededicate my life to Christ completely.
3. Hello. My name is **Roy Walker**. I have always had a privileged and blessed life but it felt lacking and empty. I committed my life to Christ 1 ½ years ago to be reborn and free. I am ready and able to live a life of faith and trust in Him. I am excited for my future and the good things to come for me and my family. I have an overwhelming sense of life and love. Today I want to commit to my faith in Jesus Christ.
4. My name is **Anthony Ferrara**. Before Christ, my life was a total disaster. I found myself leading others into the evil ways of gangs and drugs. I was in and out of jail more than at home. I was paroled from prison with a passion to abstain from my old ways, and I made a commitment to follow Christ. I am growing more and more each day. I'm turning my will over to the will of God. I am getting baptized today to show repentance and to put my faith and trust in Christ.
5. Hi. My name is **Samantha Kennelly**. I grew up knowing Jesus and going to CA. I am passionate about Jesus and I want to obey Him. I want other people to experience God's love and live for eternity with Him. I am getting baptized today out of obedience to God, and am excited to obey Him and live for Him the rest of my life.

6. Hello. My name is **Danielle Kim**. Before Christ, I was living for myself and my happiness. I was selfish. When problems persisted and life was overwhelming, I called on Christ. I am excited because following Christ is the most important decision of my life. I am committed to follow Him and to grow in faith. I am getting baptized today to proclaim and make a commitment to follow Jesus Christ.

7. Hi. My name is **Trey Christopher**. I chose to follow God at a young age. This summer on the power pack trip, during one of the sharing times, the Word hit home again like it was the first time I heard it. I made the decision to re-dedicate my life to God on that trip. I am getting baptized today to deepen the recent commitment I have made to follow Christ.

8. Hello. My name is **Cindy Haniff**. Before Christ, I felt like I was missing something in my life and there was a void in my heart. After seeking Him and praying to Him to fill the void in my life, I no longer felt that emptiness. Even though I was baptized 30 years ago, after hearing Tom's sermon on baptism I knew I needed to renew my faith in Christ, to proclaim Him as my personal Savior, and to live my life in a way that would be pleasing to Him.

9. Hi. My name is **Aaron Ryan**. I accepted Christ at an early age because of my parent's example. I was 6 years old when my parents explained what I needed to do to have eternal life with Christ. I believed Christ died for my sins and accepted Him as my Savior. I have the peace of knowing God has a plan for my life even if I don't always know what it is. I am getting baptized today to continue to proclaim my complete commitment to Christ.

10. My name is **Esther Langer**. I decided to follow Christ when I was very young. When I didn't have Jesus in my heart, I would be overwhelmed and frustrated. I wouldn't have anyone to look to, trust in, or depend upon. I am getting baptized today because I want to continue to follow Jesus.

11. Hi. My name is **Barry Spriggs**. I accepted Jesus as my Savior as a child, but I always went through the motions at Sunday school and at church. It was not until I started attending CA that my trust began to grow. Being involved in community I have learned how to turn all things over to God and to trust in Him. Today, I see God's hand in my family, my career, and the blessings He has given me. I am getting baptized today to take one more step of commitment by keeping God 1st in my heart and mind.

1. Hello. My name is **Michele Dannen-Smith**. Before I decided to trust Christ, I always felt His love in my heart but had never asked for anything from Him nor prayed to Him. When my husband and I had our son Evan dedicated, I realized I never had asked God into my life. I wanted to raise our son to know and love Christ and it was then that I made the commitment myself. This decision has made an amazing difference in my life, heart and soul. I want to extend my commitment of faith in Jesus Christ.
2. Hi. My name is **Steve Patton**. Before I made the decision to trust Christ, I lived mostly for myself and pursued my own happiness. A man I hardly knew came and talked to me about the love he found in Jesus. After speaking with this man, I came to Christ one night in my apartment, and now the rest is history. Accepting Jesus as my Lord and Savior has given me a joy and peace I never knew. I am getting baptized today to dedicate my life to Jesus.
3. Hi, my name is **Monica Cabadas**. Before Christ I was never sure about anything in my life. I was always looking for right answers. I felt unloved, hopeless and worth nothing. The day I asked the Lord Jesus Christ to come into my heart, He transformed me into a mother who can show love to her children, to be a friend to those in need and am able to feel love from a Father I always longed for. I am sure about one thing -that He is real, lives in me, and fills me with His love & mercy daily.
4. My name is **Neil Smith**. Before Christ, I was living life for no-one but myself and didn't like who I saw in the mirror. I researched the evidence about Jesus and found it to be overwhelmingly weighted towards Him being exactly who He says He is. I had no other choice, but to ask Him into my heart. Now, I'm happier, more patient and I experience a lot more love these days. I am getting baptized today to follow Jesus' example of baptism.
5. My name is **Sofia Hernandez**. Before Christ, I didn't care about anything. I didn't trust or believe in anything or anyone. Four years ago, my husband and I were going through a difficult time and I decided to put my trust in Christ. I knew I was not going to be able to get through this time on my own. Today, life is worth so much to me. I know there will always be someone to love me with no limits. I am getting baptized today to show my commitment to Christ.
6. Hi. My name is **Mahalia Bertelsen**. I decided to trust Jesus when I was 5 years old. I knew that even though I was little I could still love and know Jesus and put my life in his hands. As I

get older I know that I have to keep consciously committing myself to Jesus every day and as I do, He leads my decisions and helps me to make the right choices in life. I am getting baptized today because this is the next step in my faith and commitment to Jesus.

7. Hello. My name is **Amy Ramirez**. Before trusting Christ, my life was full of bitterness and hatred. My cousin shared with me the words of God in the Bible. I had this echo in my mind reminding me to always put my trust in God. My life has been blessed. God has answered prayers. I am getting baptized today to declare my faith in Jesus.

8. My name is **Norman Caicedi**. Before Christ, I would drink and drive, go out to clubs, and do drugs. In November 2006, after losing my job, I gave my life to Christ. Making the decision to trust Christ has made an unbelievable difference in my life. God hears my prayers. I am getting baptized today because after listening to last week's sermon on baptism, I feel led to take the next step.

9. Hi. My name is **Flora Doligon**. Before Christ, my life was full of denial. When trials came I said there was no God. When I decided to trust in Christ, my life was free of anxiety. I had freedom and trust in the Lord. Today, my faith and commitment are in Jesus Christ. I am getting baptized today because after hearing last week's message I want to enhance my faith and commitment in Jesus.

10. Hello. My name is **Celi Saroughian**. Before I truly surrendered my life to Christ I was operating in my strength and turning to God if things got hard. When I was 32 years old I had my first child and realized my strength wasn't enough. God used this to draw me to Him and at that time I truly surrendered my life to Christ. Today, I want to read the Bible. I hunger to grow, change, and be more like Christ. I am getting baptized today in obedience to what I believe God has been prompting me to do.

BAPTISM STORIES: Sunday, FUSION 6 PM – **AUGUST 29**

1. Hello. My name is **Matt Reynolds**. Before accepting Christ in my life I was lonely, empty and angry. I was never truly happy. One year ago while on vacation my best friend told me about Jesus. It changed my life. Now I really feel alive and can see a clear path for my life. I have my family and I can love and be loved. I want to be part of the family of Christ.
2. My name is **Matthew Reynolds Jr**. Before Christ, life was stressful and sometimes there was no one to turn to or help me. I thought I had everything I wanted, but it always felt like something was missing. I decided to trust Christ when I saw what a huge difference the Lord had made in my Dad and his friend's lives. Life is going 10 times better now. I feel as if I'm never on my own. I am getting baptized today because I want to be a loyal follower of Jesus.
3. Hi. My name is **Jennifer Reynolds**. Before I trusted in Christ, life was always scary and unsure. I was living in sin and didn't have the ability to control my life. My husband and our two sons took a trip to Hawaii and during that trip I did a lot of praying and talking to Jesus. I finally said to Him it was all in His hands. Now, I enjoy waking up to a new day and thank Him for all that He's done. I am getting baptized today because I have experienced so much change in my life with Jesus.
4. Hi, my name is **Tony Dang**. Before Christ my life was very unfocused, lost, disconnected and very alone. Accepting Christ was a hard decision for me. I was avoiding it for awhile until I encountered a personal challenge in my life. I had no control over it but decided to trust in Christ to get me through it. Since I have accepted Christ, I feel more connected to people. I am able to take a leap of faith and see where God can take me in my life, and I want to be closer to God.
5. My name is **Karen Christiansen**. I was born and raised Catholic, and always followed what I saw my parents doing. Three years ago I made the decision to follow Jesus. Today, I know that I am accepted and loved. I am getting baptized today to show my trust in Jesus.
6. Hello. My name is **Gaylord Eckles**. Before Christ, I lived a life of confusion and denial. When I accepted Christ, it was only the second time in my life I had prayed. I knew He had come into my heart. Today, I experience peace. I am getting baptized today because I want to cast off the past and walk a new path with Jesus as my guide.

7. Hi. My name is **Ellis Eckles**. I grew up in a Christian home, so it wasn't hard trusting God. I've always known Him. My life is clearer because of Him and He brings me joy. I am getting baptized today because I feel as though I am ready to make this decision.

8. Hello. My name is **Greg DeBelius**. I became a believer at a very early age. I made the first prayer to ask Jesus into my heart with my mother. I don't remember exactly how it happened but I have continuously reaffirmed my belief through prayer and living my life for God. Today serves as a significant marker in my life that I can look back on in troubled times. I am getting baptized today because Tom's sermon last week prompted me to take this step.

9. Hi. My name is **Rayna Kellams**. Before Christ, my life was filled with bad relationships, drinking, and drugs. About 6 years ago a friend invited me to their church. I became involved in the community and my life began to change. I accepted Christ and I've had some powerful encounters with God. I am getting baptized today because I want to dedicate my life to His purpose for me.

10. My name is **Steve Herman**. Although I accepted Christ at a young age, I committed my life to Him when I was 11. I made this commitment because I wanted my faith to be my own, not the family I was raised in. I have been able to stand on Christ as my firm foundation. I have embraced the joy and peace of God in trusting in His loving plan for my life. I am getting baptized today because I was baptized as an infant, but I want to make a commitment as a believer.

11. Hello. My name is **Ken Herman**. I was sprinkled as a young child, but I have always felt like my expression of baptism was incomplete, on my part. After many years of having a beautiful relationship with Christ I look forward to be able to express my complete commitment to Him by being totally immersed and drawn out. I am getting baptized today to show I totally belong to God.

12. Hi. My name is **Kari Kuykendall**. Before Christ, my life was without religion or God. I had a rough childhood with a lot of family struggles. Here at CA, I have been able to let go, and forgive myself. And in turn I have been able to whole-heartedly accept Christ. Today, I always have someone to walk with and to turn to when I need never-ending love and support. I am getting baptized today to publically proclaim my faith and devotion to follow Jesus.

13. My name is **Cassidy Isch**. Before Christ, my life was a normal life full of sports and school. When I went away to college, I realized I could have my own relationship with God. After deciding to follow Christ, I have felt more meaning in my life and more connection to people. I am getting baptized today as a step of faith. I believe in Jesus, and I am ready to publicly say this is who I am.
14. Hello. My name is **Aretha Scruggs**. I grew up in a Christian home, but I only had a shallow understanding of what a relationship with Jesus Christ really meant. At the age of 19, I recommitted my life to Christ. I wanted to find unconditional love and completeness in Christ. I am getting baptized today to recommit my life and my service to Christ through baptism.
15. Hello. My name is **Cemal (pronounced Jemal) Azimli**. Before Christ, I always felt like there was a black cloud around my life. I was born and raised as a Muslim in a Muslim country. I never felt like I belonged with Muslims because I didn't choose that faith. One night I saw Jesus in my dreams. I made a decision to have faith in Him and allow Him to be my leader. Today, my heart has peace and the black cloud is gone. I am getting baptized today to show that I am following Jesus.
16. Hi. My name is **Arianna Souri**. Before Christ, my life was empty. I was very much a follower of the belief that says: "to each his own." In November, I saw that worldly solutions to the hardships of this life weren't solutions at all. When I told Jesus He could now have complete control, He proved He knew how to lead. Today, I know for a fact that my God is mighty, in control and with Him nothing is impossible. I am getting baptized today to publicly declare my faith.