



WEST CENTER
Baptist Church

BAPTISM SUNDAY

April 25, 2021

Lyla Materese



I grew up in a Christian home. I became part of Jesus' family when I was about 5 years old. Since then, my faith grew in Jesus and I think I have been showing the love that Jesus gave to me in my heart to others.

In the 4 years that I have been a Christian, I have been growing and showing love and kindness. When COVID started, my anxiety was big and it was a hard time for me. It was a miracle because my faith grew even stronger through God's word. Every night I always cuddled with my bible, even though it was very uncomfortable because it was hard-covered! Ever since then, my faith and trust was so strong and that's when I learned miracles can happen even when it's dark and dusty.

One verse that stuck to me during that time, even now it is very powerful to me, is Philippians 4:6-7. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your heart and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Another verse I love is Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." That verse is trying to tell you that God will strengthen you no matter what happens to you because He loves you. Also John 3:16. I remember this verse by heart because of AWANA. This was my favorite Bible verse before I knew about Philippians. I'm scared of dying, but part of John 3:16 is "whoever believes in me shall not perish, but have eternal life." I trust that Jesus is the Son of God and died on the cross for my sins.

Zoe Schubert



I feel like I have always known about Jesus. My parents have told me about God and the Gospel since I was very little. They read the Bible to me almost every night, and we sing to praise God because he loves us. They always bring me to church where I hear about Jesus and the Gospel. In Awana, I have memorized Bible verses like John 3:16 which tells me that Jesus died because he loves us, and we can have eternal life with God if we believe in Him. The last couple years, I have started taking sermon notes. Also, I know my grandparents pray for me a lot!

When I decided to trust Christ as my Lord and savior, it was last fall. I was eight years old. We were watching the church service at home because we were sick. I was writing some sermon notes, and suddenly it just hit me during the sermon that I am a sinner who needs God's forgiveness. I prayed and told God that I believe Jesus died to forgive my sins and asked for him to make me his child. I think Titus 3:4-7 gets the main point. God didn't save us because we are good, he saved us because he is full of love and grace. And now we get to have hope and eternal life! And he gives us his Spirit and the Bible to help us live a life honoring him. Lately, I think God has been helping me turn away from angry words when I am mad at my brothers and sisters. I think about this verse a lot, "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger," Proverbs 15:1.



ROMANS 6:3-5

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.



