

At Element we believe it is important for people around us to understand the changes that are taking place in our own lives based on the work of Christ in us. To help others understand what Baptism is and what it means to those being baptized on a personal level, we have asked them to share their life and stories with you, those attending and those online, in a more personal way than maybe you are use to. eptember 4

ELEMENT

christian church

In Baptism we are making a public statement about our life and commitment to walk in the ways Jesus calls us. Many people only get the Jesus "as seen on TV" and don't understand what Jesus does in "real life" or what following Him looks like on a practical level. Baptism is not magical, but it is a deeply spiritual event that reflects the work Jesus has done in our lives. The act of Baptism is symbolic in that we identify with the death and resurrection of Christ. We are essentially being buried (by going under the water) and raised to walk in new life (by coming out of the water).

The entire point is public identification with Christ and His work within us. That He is our great God and Savior that has come to restore a broken humanity that cannot have a relationship with God on our own. He is the Redeemer, He is the Remedy, He is the Hope, and He is our Life.

We also have the hope that one day you too will come to the saving knowledge of trusting in Jesus with your life. It makes all the difference in the world.

Aaron

## **ISAAC MCCOOL**

## **JOYCE CASSARO**

Hi, my name is Isaac McCool and I am 9 years old. I love Pokemon, video games, Beyblades, but most of all, Jesus. I am probably one of the weirdest people you'll ever meet. Something I would like people to know about me is I am very curious! I am not afraid to ask questions when I have them, even if it is in front of a large group of people.

I have gone to Element my whole life, but I know that doesn't mean I've been a Christian my whole life. I believe I became a Christian when I was around 6 or 7. I remember realizing how amazing God was and all the proof the Bible shows us of His existence. That is when I started trying to take things more seriously and not just fooling around anymore.

I chose to believe in God because of how much I know He loves me and sacrificed for me. Because of that, I wanted to be Baptized so I can show other people how much I love Him. I also think if there are kids from my class that see me get Baptized, they might come to me if they need help. I want to keep learning more and more about Jesus and His sacrifice for us aka the Good News, aka the Gospel.

I promise to follow Jesus for the rest of my life, being kind to others and teaching them about Him.

PS – after I get Baptized, I am probably going to Dab.

Hi, my name is Joyce. I am ten years old, and my favorite color is light purple. I love dogs and God (not in that order). When I was one year old, my sister and I started living with our Auntie Danielle. Then, when I was three, we started living with our Uncle Jason and Aunt Justine, whom I now call dad and mom. I have three siblings, Josiah, JJ, and Jenelle. I have two dogs with my Aunt Danielle named Zola and Daisy. My best friends are Macie and Molly.

Even though my life started out differently, I have been happy and joyful because I knew that God was always going to be there for me. I always remember going to church at our old building when I was little. I remember the old room with a step stage and a big rack of toys. I remember sitting on the ground and listening to the lessons. In first grade, that's when I fully understood what it meant to be a Christian and I asked Jesus into my heart. It has been really fun learning about God through my Awana book and lessons at Awana. I've learned a lot of verses that have helped me understand salvation and God better. I know that I sin and that God always forgives me, because Jesus died on the cross because He was the only perfect one to save us from our sins. I have wanted to get baptized for a while now because not everyone knows that I want to follow Jesus, and I want to show everyone that I love God and want to follow Him.