

Sunday, May 18, 2025

### Millbrook Campus 9:15am

- 1. Nyasia Lopez
- 2. Andy Reid
- 3. Jessica Reid
- 4. Emerald Teel



#### Nyasia Lopez

Life Verse: "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

-Isaiah 41:10

My life was hard and difficult. I was lashing out, disrespecting my mother, always fighting, and never caring about anyone's feelings because I felt like no one cared about mine. That all changed when I started losing family members who were really close to me. First, my little sister, who only lived for a day. That was in 2019. Then, my great-grandmother, who was always there for me, passed in 2021. Four days later, my grandfather passed away. And sadly, six months after that, my mother passed. When I saw so many family members go, I found myself praying and talking about Christ more often. I began studying the Bible this year, and I feel like God has so much He wants to say to me. I'm ready to open my ears and hear Him. I'm ready to live for Him. My life has been a very bumpy road, even as I've sought Christ. But I'm not losing my faith.



#### **Andy Reid**

Life Verse: "What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?"

-Mark 8:36

Before I met Jesus, I was selfish and only cared about the outcome of my personal life. Over time, I've grown to care about and love things outside of myself. I met Jesus at an early age but got off track when I went to college. Since reconnecting with Him, my life has gotten better. There have been trials and tribulations, but God has helped me fight every battle. I was saved a few years ago in college, but I've always wanted to take the next step and be baptized.



#### Jessica Reid

Life Verse: "I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you."

-Luke 10:19

I was raised in church and baptized when I was young. I sang in the choir and was really going hard for God. I had a tough life, and as I got older, I started to question things. There was a lot about Christianity that confused me, so I began researching, and eventually, it led me away from religion. For the past eight years, I considered myself "spiritual." I definitely took part in divination, as well as other things I didn't realize I was tapping into. I still believed in God, but not in the church or everything in the Bible. Recently, I felt led to fast for two weeks. During that time, God guided me to certain scriptures that went against what I had been doing. I also had a dream, and through all of this, I really feel called to give my life back to Christ. I feel so much love and acceptance with Him.



#### **Emerald Teel**

Life Verse: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

-Joshua 1:9

Before truly meeting Jesus, I believed in God but mostly relied on myself. I tried to control everything and carried a lot of fear—especially when life felt uncertain. That all changed after I gave birth and was suddenly diagnosed with a brain tumor just two months postpartum. I was terrified—afraid I wouldn't survive to raise my baby boy, the greatest gift God has ever given me. In that moment, I surrendered everything to Jesus. I leaned into Him like never before and found peace in the middle of chaos. The hospital I chose turned out to be faith-based, filled with Scripture and God's presence—a clear sign He was with me. Since then, I've learned to live with faith over fear. I still face challenges, but I no longer carry them alone. Jesus has given me peace, strength, and purpose, and I now walk in full trust that He's writing my story for good.



### Baptisms

### Sunday, May 18, 2025

#### Millbrook Campus 11:00am

- 1. Michael Borden
- 2. Kaylee Garcia-Vazquez
- 3. DeAnna DiMatteo
- 4. Enzo DiMatteo
- 5. Jordan Duhon
- 6. Tiffany Halloway
- 7. Michael Jaquay



#### Michael Borden

Life Verse: "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. 19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

-Isaiah 43:18-19

I've had my share of struggles and good times. And honestly, the struggles are what led me to meet Jesus again. My past has been filled with both joy and pain—just like everyone's. In 2013, I got divorced. It was a really hard time for me, and I began to struggle with alcohol afterward. At the time, work felt like the only place where I was needed. Then, in 2014, I met Sarah—my beautiful wife. Things were good, but the grip of my past mistakes, especially with alcohol, would creep back in. It got to the point where I was on the verge of losing my family. This past winter, my wife suggested we attend the Spark group. To say that those 10 weeks changed my life is an understatement. For the first time, I truly felt the presence of Jesus. It had never happened to me before. I began to ask for forgiveness and started turning to the Bible—and to Jesus. I know I still have a long way to go, but with Jesus, I believe I can do anything. Today is my next step, and I can truly say, with all my heart and mind, that Jesus is my Lord and Savior!



### Kaylee Garcia- Vazquez

Life Verse: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

- Ephesians 4:32

I think my life before Jesus was marked by feeling a bit lost. I knew who He was—I just didn't fully understand what it meant to have a relationship with Him. I met Jesus when I realized He had been there for me through every tough time, in every moment, quietly guiding me toward Him. Since I met Jesus, my life has changed. He's given me a stronger sense of peace and purpose. I'm learning to trust Him more, to show kindness to others, and to grow in my faith every single day. Today is an important step in my faith journey as I publicly declare my faith.



#### DeAnna DiMatteo

Life Verse: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?"

- Luke 15:4

I've always been a believer, but I went down the wrong path and found myself astray—like the one sheep that was lost. In May of 2024, a health issue arose and that's where I found Jesus again. He was my rock. He has helped me turn my life around, and I can see His work in many areas of my life, and in my son's life as well. He is my shepherd. I want to be baptized to follow in Jesus' footsteps, to mark a new beginning in my life with Jesus.



#### **Enzo DiMatteo**

Life Verse: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

- John 3:16

I remember learning about Jesus when I was in preschool at a Christian school. It makes me feel good to know that Jesus watches over me. I like to pray and spend time with Him. I also like reading the stories in the Bible. I want to be baptized because Jesus was baptized and that is what he told us to do if we believe in Him.



#### Jordan Duhon

Life Verse: "For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world."

- 1 John 2:16

I can't really remember my life before Jesus. I was baptized Catholic many years ago, as a baby. What I do remember is that my youth was filled with joy —knowing Jesus and having Him guide me through my childhood. I accepted Him as the Son of God, and my heart was filled with love. I met Jesus at a young age, so He's always been a big part of my life. He's helped me strive to avoid sin and has guided me through some very dark times—especially after losing close family members. During those times, I felt like I had no purpose. I almost gave up on everything. But then I had a moment—a moment where I just stopped and thought about how far I had come, with Jesus guiding me. I closed my eyes and prayed. I prayed that things would get better, and over time, they did. Since I met Jesus, my life has changed in a major way. He's brought purpose into my life—giving me a reason to live each and every day. I accepted Him as Savior, and He saved me.



### **Tiffany Holloway**

Life Verse: "No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment."

- Isaiah 54:17

Before I met Jesus, I was traveling down a very dangerous, lonely, and dark road. I lived in fear every day. I had given up on myself—and on life. I didn't want to keep breathing, let alone living. I was a shell of a person—running from the law, doing drugs, and hiding from my own self. One day, my run from the law ended. I went to jail—and strangely, I felt safe there. I felt relief. I was no longer worried about anyone or anything harming me. But even then, I still didn't like how I felt about myself. I asked someone for a Bible, and when I started reading, I found myself mind-boggled. A lot of my confusion cleared. I felt this warm sensation run through me, and to this day, I haven't stopped reading my Bible. Since I met Jesus, I've been clean for eight months. I walk with purpose. I challenge myself daily. I live life in the now, and I do all I can to give everything to God as I grow and walk by faith, not by sight. I love myself. I love everyone around me. I speak life into those I come across. I owe everything to God.



### Michael Jaquay

Life Verse: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

- John 3:16

Before I began walking with the Lord, life was troublesome and exhausting. I was in a toxic relationship, and I felt like I had no one to lean on. I struggled a lot with my mental health and often had thoughts of suicide. Life felt meaningless. I believed I was just here to die, and I hated every part of myself. All the hurt made me selfish. One night I was in my room and didn't know how to deal with the pain. The only escape I could see was ending my life. I prayed one last time and heard the Lord say, "Everything will be okay." That night, I had my first real encounter with the Lord. I started praying every day. A few weeks later, that toxic relationship ended, and I felt better than ever. I let God into my life, and realized that all I ever needed was God. I didn't need to feel loved by anyone else, because I had Christ deep in my soul. Life began to feel brighter. I started learning about Jesus and how much He loves me. Since I met the Lord, my life has changed for the better. I've learned to appreciate life because we only get one shot. Without God, I am nothing, I'm a lost cause. But with Him, I am powerful. I thank Him for what He did, and what He continues to do in my life.

