

‘We’ve Seen Incredible Revival’: Nearly 70 Inmates Transformed by the Power of God

Dozens of inmates at a Florida jail are experiencing God’s transformational power and starting new lives in Christ after a sheriff’s office opened its doors to local churches.

First Apostolic Church of DeFuniak Springs recently partnered with New Life Church of Santa Rosa Beach to conduct mass baptisms while working with the Walton County Sheriff’s Office.

The jail ministry focuses on rehabilitating and discipling inmates to not only redirect, but also completely change their lives. A recent baptism event gave them the chance to take a step of faith, making their internal change visible to others.

“Our mantra, if you will, has always been recovery, not recidivism. And what I mean by that is trying to find a better life, trying to make men and women who are incarcerated in our jail better people, and introducing them to the Lord. And then being baptized is sort of a rebirth for them,” Corey Dobridnia, the Public Information Officer for Walton County Sheriff’s Office, said.



To order Kathryn Krick’s new book, Ignite Revival, visit .

Rev. Jonathan King from First Apostolic Church serves as a voluntary chaplain at the Walton County jail, and he shares that goal.

“The beauty of jail ministry to me is that we’re able to minister to these people that are just truly at their bottom, and the Lord is doing incredible things in their lives,” he said. “And so we’ve had some of them that have gotten out and come to church, and the Lord’s changing their life, and they’re a part of our church today, and I’m excited about the fact that God is reaching into their lives and making a difference, and it’s not just recidivism. It’s not just keeping them from going back to jail. It’s actually changing their life and their families and impacting a whole generation by what God is doing with them in the jail.”

King said more than 70 inmates wanted to be baptized, but the jail was limited to only 70 authorized baptism uniforms. One inmate did not show at the recent ceremony, however, the 69 who did were baptized – 48 men and 21 women.

New Life Church of Santa Rosa Beach has also experienced some unprecedented numbers and witnessed lives transformed at other ceremonies.

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