

Tongues, Tears and Triumph: The Untold Story of a Prison Prophet

Katie Souza's story doesn't begin with a church altar call; it begins in an empty prison unit.

In a powerful interview on Kap Chatfield's Directed Life podcast, Souza recounted how after years of arrests and running, she found herself alone, certain she'd spend decades behind bars. Overwhelmed and ready to explode, she opened her mouth to cry out—and tongues poured out. "I started praying in tongues in prison," she recalls. "Without anybody laying hands on me or anything."

Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!

What she didn't realize in that moment was that God had already marked her years earlier. A cousin once took her to church, where a minister prophesied over her—"You're a drug dealer and God wants to redeem you"—and told her to open her mouth. Tongues came then, too. But she didn't walk with God; she simply filed it away and kept moving. Now, locked in a cell, the Holy Spirit reawakened that gift—and with it, a hunger for Scripture.

With nothing to read in her unit but a Bible, Katie began devouring the Word. The ancient stories suddenly made sense. She saw herself in the pages. The revelation ignited a fire. She started teaching Bible studies behind bars, baptizing women in the showers, and leading songs she'd picked up from a

Christian radio. “Everybody out of the cell,” she’d announce. “We’re going to sing and I’m going to teach.” They came—some because they were curious, many because, as she jokes, they were a little afraid of her.

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up to date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

Souza’s faith was real but raw. She listened to worship through foam headphones while playing spades and still working out the rough edges of a soul that hadn’t yet healed. But the Word was working, and God was just getting started.



To order Kap Chatfield’s new book, [The Power to Prosper](#), visit [this link](#).

To hear more of Katie Souza’s incredible testimony, watch the full interview below.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!