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200 Men Born Again, 47 Baptized in Oklahoma Prison Revival

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"Revival Generation"

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

Two hundred men inside an Oklahoma prison gave their lives to Christ in a single service this week, and 47 of them were baptized on the spot. The revival broke out at Mack Alford Correctional Center, where 300 incarcerated men had gathered for a service led by the prison ministry God Behind Bars. Pastor Michael Todd of Transformation Church in Tulsa preached the message - one word, "SHIFT" - and men began stepping forward before he had finished.

The scene CBN News described was raw. Men were weeping, lifting their hands, some dropping to their knees in a room built for lockdown, not worship. Two out of every three men in that room answered the call. In a place where every day is counted in years left to serve, 200 men decided the count had changed.

Michael Todd: "It's Time To SHIFT" Inside Mack Alford Prison

Todd walked into Mack Alford with one challenge for the men sitting in front of him: shift. He is the lead pastor of Transformation Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and his message inside the prison was about identity, repentance, addiction, freedom, and purpose - about what it means to turn completely toward Jesus. Then the response began, and it did not stop at raised hands.

Men began stepping into the water to be baptized right there inside the prison. God Behind Bars, which films its prison services, released the footage of Todd's sermon and the baptisms that followed it. The video shows incarcerated men running to get baptized, one after another, while the room erupts around them.

The ministry's full prison message is now live on its channels, and the clip of the baptisms has spread far beyond Oklahoma. Chris Pratt: Seahawks Prayer Is What I Want My Son to See showed a different kind of public prayer going viral - a quarterback praying on the field - but the men at Mack Alford were not performing for cameras. There were no cameras in their cells the next morning, only the same walls and the same sentences, and the question of whether anything had really changed.

God Behind Bars And The Prison Revival Since 2022

This was not a one-off event. America's revival behind bars kicked into high gear back in 2022, when the God Behind Bars ministry reported more than 450 inmates baptized after giving their lives to Christ. CBN News has been tracking the movement ever since, and the reports keep coming from prisons and local jails across the country.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

READ THE FULL STORY

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