



Delta state Prison Helps Incarcerated Mothers Rebuild Their Lives

GREENWOOD – Forty-two women at Delta Correctional Facility have graduated from a program modeled after the biblical story of Hannah and her son Samuel.

Hannah's Gift and Parenting, a faith-based prison ministry program based on 1 Samuel 1-3, is designed specifically to help incarcerated mothers build healthy relationships with their children, learn how to parent from a distance, and break the generational cycles of crime.

The program offers a lifeline not only to the mothers but also to their children, often the silent sufferers of incarceration.

In addition to personal homework and Scripture memorization, the program involves Bible reading records and letter writing to children, providing practical ways for mothers to stay emotionally connected and active in their children's lives.

"The impact of the program is tangible," said Delta's Program Director Rochelle Gunn-Hudson. "Research indicates that maintaining family bonds can significantly reduce recidivism rates and help inmates reintegrate into society more successfully. Hannah's Gift, often paired with companion initiatives like Malachi Dads and the Returning Hearts celebration, provides a comprehensive approach to prisoner rehabilitation."

Each graduate showcased projects that demonstrated tremendous creativity: CDs complete with covers, a handmade baby stroller accompanied by a lifelike baby doll, detailed vision boards, storybooks, and family games.

Guest speaker Mike Broyles traveled from California to energize the July 27, 2026, ceremony with a spiritually grounded speech centered on the women's personal journeys.

