



# Stronghold Ministry's Monthly Newsletter

## The Exchanger

July 2010

### Inside this issue:

#### **Holding Up the Hurting 1**

Will you help Stronghold as we hold up the hurting?

#### **Abiding Prayer Group 1**

For any woman who wants to tune into the voice and "life" of the True Vine.

#### **From the Front Lines 2**

**Charles H.** shares how the Lord has brought him through two heart attacks, a pacemaker surgery, and now kidney and bladder cancer at the spry age of 87.

#### **Prayer Wall 3**

Prayer is not an after-thought, but a major tool in our support. Please pray with us for the healing of many.

Tell us your story.

We want to be "in your corner."

877-230-7674 (toll free)  
jfor@mystronghold.org

### Coming Events

**Stronghold Ministry**

**Banquet - 6 PM**

**Sunday, Oct 3rd**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Speaker - June Hunt**

**At The Hope Center -Dallas**

**\*Calvary Chapel Garland -**

Joe speaks at Men's Breakfast

- Saturday, July 31st

Time/ place TBD

Call 214-221-7007

## Holding Up the Hurting

-Joe Fornear

*"So it came about when Moses held his hand up, that Israel prevailed, and when he let his hand down, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands were heavy... and Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other. Thus his hands were steady until the sun set. So Joshua overwhelmed Amalek" - Exodus 17:11-13.*

This 3500 year old account of the battle at Rephidim is so applicable today. It reveals a fascinating interplay between prayer, God's intervention, and supporting each other in our individual battles. We are all like Moses, fighting fierce battles. Whether we are fighting cancer, or working through life's many trials, we all must fight our own personal battles; we cannot fight for each other. Yet we each need help to hold strong in prayer and faith to influence unseen enemy forces, especially raging enemies, like cancer.



**Stronghold Ministry** comes to the side of cancer warriors to help hold up their hands in battle. We are a tool in God's hand to lighten many loads. We operate in spiritual realms, in arenas of the mind, in deep recesses of the cancer patient's heart where even their closest friends may not go. We know we are making a difference, because our contacts tell us that every day. Many call or write us right before their surgery or treatments to seek our prayers and encouragement. Many let down their guards and express grave concerns.

Yet *Stronghold Ministry* needs help to hold up the weary arms of hurting people. Could you hold us up? What can you do?

- **Pray.** Prayer *always* make any situation better. Each month, on page 3 of this newsletter, we post our "Prayer Wall" of the names of our contacts. Would you commit to pray for them? Also please pray for our ministry, that we would be bold and sensitive with God's Word
- **Give.** We really need your financial support to make this ministry a well-equipped fighting force for God. Many ways to give - check out our Donation page online - [www.mystronghold.org/Donate.html](http://www.mystronghold.org/Donate.html). We would truly appreciate your financial help!

Let us know of *your* battles too. We want to hold up your arms for victory.

### Abiding Prayer Group - For Women

*"Abide in Me, and my words abide IN you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you" (John 15:7).*

God has gathered a group of women who desire to do Abiding Prayer together . . . We are learning to gaze at Jesus, opening our hearts to receive from Him, as we sit in silence and meditate on Him. We share with each other His Word given to each one, and watch Him take our burdens as we lay them in His hands. We are experiencing His peace, healing and unconditional, loving Presence.



Friday mornings - 9-10:30 a.m.

Dallas Bible Church - 15765 Hillcrest Road, Dallas, TX 75248

Call Terri Fornear at 214-221-7007. *Child care not currently provided.*

## Testimony Time

We are featuring the stories of warriors and caretakers we serve. This month we share the story of **Charles H.** The Lord is bringing him through kidney and bladder cancer despite a history of two heart attacks, a pacemaker, and an 87 year old body! Charles is pictured here with his wife, Jeanne.

My first illness was from a heart attack in 1987 when stints were put in. All was well and normal until 2004 when it happened again. This time turned out well, too and the Lord was so good to give good health between and after these two events. Then in 2007 I had a pacemaker put in.

During 1970 until 1991 we cared for my invalid sister-in-law, and the Lord had been so near and answered so many prayers so that our faith became very strong.

Then in March 2009, I sighted blood in my urine and called my doctor. He told me to come in immediately. After examination he told me that my left kidney was filled with what he thought was cancer. After tests it was

determined to be cancer. So he immediately scheduled me for surgery and removed the kidney. We prayed the Lord would guide those attending the surgery and give us faith to trust Him. We had learned through past experiences that God is sovereign and all things that come into our lives are for a purpose which He causes to work together for good for those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose. So we rested in Him. The greatest thing is that we belong to a praying church and our members prayed for us, sent cards, food and called constantly.

I was in surgery five hours, and being 87 years old with my past heart record, they decided that was long enough. They left what the doctor called a "stub" that was attached to my bladder. He didn't think anything would come from it and if it did it would be four or five years. After three months when the doctor checked me, he saw that the "stub" must be removed. This was in the fall of 2009. After removing the stub he gave me a six-week treatment once a week of TICE BCG. This is supposed to be the best treatment for bladder cancer. On April 2010, he removed a tumor. A week later he called and said the tumor was not cancer. It was near cancer, but was not cancer! We are praising the Lord for His mercy and grace and for the prayers of our friends and our church!!

Among our friends is Stronghold Ministry. Through a friend, we heard of a banquet to hear about the ministry and received a book about Joe's story. At the banquet, we met Joe Fornear and were very impressed by the ministry. We thank God for the prayers, support and encouragement from this group.

Right now things are very good. I have had three more BCG treatments and have one more to go. One thing we have learned is that God does not always change our circumstances to please us. But He uses our circumstances to change us!!! Praise the Lord !!!

-Charles H.

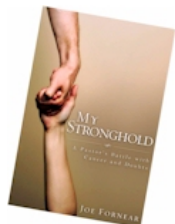


### My Stronghold - The book

Visit our website for more on Joe Fornear's book on his cancer battle, called *My Stronghold, A Pastor's Battle with Cancer and Doubts* -

[www.mystronghold.org/My-Stronghold.html](http://www.mystronghold.org/My-Stronghold.html).

If you're a cancer patient, or caretaker, we'll send the book to you at no cost. Simply write and tell us your story. We want to share your burden.





# Stronghold Prayer Wall



## Please join us in prayer for these warriors

Stronghold has reached out to this list of individuals who are fighting cancer or have fought cancer (a few have other serious illnesses). We don't want to neglect the centrality of prayer for healing. Will you take a moment to intercede with us for these warriors? It is motivating to know our prayers are like a sweet incense to the Lord (Revelation 5:8).

*Lord, please bring complete healing, strength and comfort to each of these You love so much.*

## Sign up for "In His Grip"

*In His Grip is a weekly devotional e-mail intended to encourage and inspire those fighting cancer and those in crisis.*

*To subscribe to In His Grip go to -*

<http://www.mystronghold.org>

*In His Grip Archives are at Joe's blog - just click on the "Blog" link.*

## Revelation 5:8

The twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Mike D	Vicky	Duke	Johnnie	Debbie	John David
Mr. W	Rachel	Don	Linda	Sara	Linda
John	Stephanie	Jack	Maurice	Ethan	Steve
Bill	Judy	John	Gary	Myrna	Scott
Jon N	Terri	Richard	Pat	Don	Dorcas
Rich	Megan	Lori	Dylan	Will	Ivan
Gloria	Ruth	Sheila	Carolyn	Ric	Nancy
Claudia	Hank	Betty	Rusty	Randy	Jessica
Jeff	Vivian	Beverly	Bernard	Carlos	Emily
Carolyn	Tony	Darlene	Cindy	Mike	Bob
Laura	Melody	Cheryl	Lisa	Tina	Quentin
Mary Sue	Michael	Karon	Brian	Les	Donna
Ed	Susan	Jacob	Nisha	Traci	Christian
Milton	Joseph	Rebecca	Sherri	Trista	Kathy
Sara	Michael	Susan	Darcelle	Timi	Toni
Rex	Robert	Ms. M	Alan	Jordan	Silas
Monette	Mike	Bill	Jennifer	Scott	Gloria
Joan	Debra	Sharon	Agnes	Maria	Althea
Brian	Michael S.	Luke	Fred	Jack	Cathy
Joanne	Debbie	Nancy	Dave	Naomi	Grace
Kathy	Barb	Bill	Mary	Matthew	James Earl
Sue	Kent	Holly	Joanne	Lori	Pam
Garrett	Ted	Diane	Marilynn	Kristen	Sandra
Kathy	Andy	Allison	Johnny	John	Steve
Peggy	Steve	Randy	Pat	Leonard	Cathy
Mr. L	Lois	Nelia	Mary	Penny	Donna
Becky	Karen	Rick	Charles	Betty	Bonnie
Frank	Pat	Linda	Bill	Lisa	Amy
Randy	Jodie	Akadrianna	Karen	Mechas	Debrah
Sue	Matt	Janet	Betty	Phyllis	Fred
Mr. S	Susan	Julie	Mr. H	Mike	JL
Susan	Hudson	Delora	Manuel	Hal	Betty
Mrs. L	David	Clayton	Bob	Frank	Will
Priscilla	Darlene	Kathy	Nick	Evelyn	Celine
Stephanie	Lynda	Sherry	Bonnie	Mary	Donna
Lynne	Yvette	Adair	Misti	Tina	Phil
Althea	Sean	Matt	Kristine	Marty	Fred
Robbin	Frank	Mike	Alfredo	Holly	Cosme
Correy	Larry	Mildred	Sandi	Rachel	Anna
David	Lori	Anne	Virginia	Steve	Ava
Angela	Katrina	Fred	Linda	Kim	Evelyn
Maryann	Gregg	Kaye	Tracy	Mary Jane	Elton
Bill	Ruth	Lois	Vicky	Carol	
Tina	Sam	Gracie	Inez	Grant	
Edward	Pete	Tom	Kate	Rob	
Dianne	Gina	Cristina	Tom	Andre	

We try to maintain a balance of privacy and personalization. If your name or a loved one's name appears here and you do not wish to be listed for any reason, please write and ask us to remove - jfor@mystronghold.org.