



Stronghold Ministry's Monthly Newsletter

The Exchanger

January 2011

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Please pray with us for the healing and comfort of many.

Tell us your story.
We want to be
"in your corner."

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

Coming Events

Abiding Prayer Group for Women

Friday mornings
9-10:30 a.m.

@ Dallas Bible Church
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#### Ephesians Bible Study for Men

Friday mornings  
6:30-8:00 a.m.

@ Dallas Bible Church

Call 214-221-7007  
for more info.

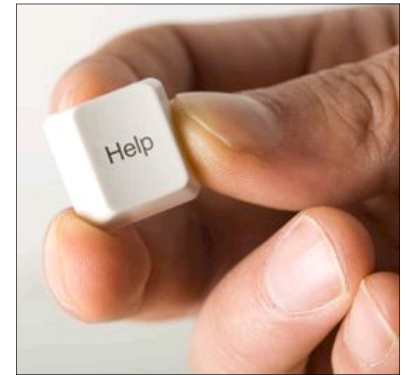
### In Their Corner

-Joe Fornear

People shouldn't have to fight cancer alone, yet far too many do. In the two years plus of our existence, **Stronghold Ministry** has connected with patients with varying levels of spiritual and emotional support. Some have huge networks of family and friends; others have virtually no network. One girl who is currently fighting a brain tumor has 8.6 million hits on her CaringBridge online journal which her mother writes. On the other end of the spectrum, a man called to tell us that his wife left him. She said, "I can't handle this."

We can and do minister to all. Even with those who have tremendous support, Terri and I can relate and encourage in ways that others may not, because of our own brutal battle with cancer. Yet it is those who have little support that **Stronghold Ministry** is so motivated to join in their battle. So often we receive notes or calls saying, "I don't know anyone who has been through this that I can talk to or pray with." Many have no pastor or church to lean on. Some don't know the first thing about God, the Father of Jesus.

We are honored to be "in the corner" of people fighting cancer. There is plenty of room for you to fight alongside of us. You may pray; you may donate; or you may volunteer your services in the areas of your expertise. We can't provide help to hurting people alone. Thanks for any help.



### Reminders about Donations

We have received matching gifts from companies that match their employees donations. Be sure to check with your company to see if they match donations to charities, to Stronghold Ministry, or *wherever you donate*.

We've been asked by a donor to pass along the info that Congress has extended the IRA distribution rules to charities through 2011. Donors over 70 and 1/2 can distribute donations directly to charities from their IRS accounts.



We believe the Lord will bless you for your donations. He promises in 2 Corinthians 9:6, "Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

You can donate on our secure web gateway or through Paypal here on our website: [www.mystronghold.org/Donate.html](http://www.mystronghold.org/Donate.html)

## Testimony Time

We are featuring stories of those we serve who are fighting cancer. This month we share the stirring words of **Peggy H**, who is battling uterine cancer. Her husband, **Steve**, is quoted below as well and pictured with their nine year old son, **Conor**. Peggy shares how God is using cancer to draw her and her husband closer together, and to Him.

While reflecting upon a day that started rough, but ended with encouragement from Stronghold and other encouragement from friends, Peggy wrote:

While Steve, Conor and I prayed that evening, through the prompting of the Holy Spirit, I saw something beautiful, almost sacred. Praying was not a part of our life, only at meals. God has humbled us. We now thank Him for all things and for each other. I pray each day that God's will be done, no matter what comes, and that could mean anything. I surrender and I am rewarded with His Faithfulness. If I come undone, he picks me back up. I opened your gift this morning and felt the love and a connection. Our God does bring beauty out of the suffering and I am not alone in this. I thank God for your choice to say yes to Him. I pray God uses your ministry for His Glory so the world may see How Great Is Our God.



On two other occasions she wrote:

If this is one more thing to bring us to our knees, it has, and it is making something beautiful in relationship between my husband, Steve, and myself as we approach our God together in the name of Jesus. Here at level ground I am finding his grace and mercy are carrying me.

Joe, I read your book Sunday; only by God's grace I got through. Wow. By his stripes we are healed (*Matthew 8:17*). I have been praying God's will; He knows all, not me. My blind eyes were opened. He wants me to bang on the door. I have always just let things go and thought that was peace, always wanting easy. This revelation Terri had has changed my thinking. So now The Lord's Prayer has new meaning to me in mine and Steve's prayers, and with all whom I share this revelation.

Steve wrote recently:

Thank you so much for the love you have shown to us in Christ Jesus. It is a comfort to know you know what we are going through, and that you are lifting our precious Peggy up in prayer. Your book and your testimony are a great witness to our loving and merciful God.

*Please pray for complete healing for Peggy as she is recovering from surgery and expects chemo and radiation to follow in her treatment plan.*



### My Stronghold - The book

Visit our website for more on Joe Fornear's story and book about his cancer battle, *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 are a cancer patient, or caretaker, we'll send you the book at no cost. Simply write and tell us your story. We want to share your burden.

### Sign up for "In His Grip"

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

To subscribe to *In His Grip* go to our website -

<http://www.mystronghold.org>

*In His Grip* archives are at Joe's blog. Just click on the "Blog" link on our website.



# Stronghold Prayer Wall



Please join us in prayer for these warriors

Stronghold is reaching out to these individuals who are fighting cancer, or have fought cancer. A few have other serious illness. We believe in the centrality of prayer for healing. Will you take a moment to intercede with us for these whom Jesus loves?

|           |            |            |          |            |            |           |         |            |
|-----------|------------|------------|----------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|------------|
| Mike D    | Rachel     | Lori       | Brian    | Jordan     | Pam        | Jon       | Ken     | Larry      |
| Mr. W     | Stephanie  | Sheila     | Nisha    | Scott      | Sandra     | Clark     | Chris   | Julie      |
| John      | Judy       | Betty      | Sherri   | Maria      | Steve      | Don       | Tommy   | Helga      |
| Bill      | Terri      | Beverly    | Darcelle | Jack       | Cathy      | Joe       | Danny   | Cathy      |
| Jon N     | Megan      | Darlene    | Alan     | Naomi      | Donna      | Sheryl    | Mimi    | Lisa       |
| Rich      | Ruth       | Cheryl     | Jennifer | Matthew    | Bonnie     | Kenedy    | Joe     | Adrienne   |
| Gloria    | Hank       | Karon      | Agnes    | Lori       | Amy        | Amy       | Jimmy   | Pat        |
| Claudia   | Tony       | Jacob      | Fred     | Kristen    | Debrah     | Cindy     | Heidi   | Fran       |
| Jeff      | Melody     | Rebecca    | Dave     | John       | Fred       | Benji     | Janet   | Bryan      |
| Carolyn   | Susan      | Susan      | Mary     | Leonard    | JL         | Pearl     | Carol   | Laurie     |
| Laura     | Joseph     | Ms. M      | Joanne   | Penny      | Betty      | Dale      | Michael | Charlie    |
| Mary Sue  | Michael    | Bill       | Marilynn | Betty      | Will       | Phil      | Debbie  | Lanette    |
| Ed        | Robert     | Sharon     | Johnny   | Lisa       | Celine     | William   | Beth    | Bob        |
| Milton    | Mike       | Luke       | Pat      | Mechas     | Donna      | Bill      | Brenda  | Kevin      |
| Sara      | Debra      | Nancy      | Mary     | Phyllis    | Phil       | Meg       | Julie   | Eric       |
| Rex       | Michael S. | Bill       | Charles  | Mike       | Fred       | Tim       | Cheryl  | Bob        |
| Monette   | Debbie     | Holly      | Bill     | Hal        | Cosme      | Michael   | Sara    | Judy       |
| Joan      | Barb       | Diane      | Karen    | Frank      | Anna       | Vicky     | Terri   | Philip     |
| Brian     | Kent       | Allison    | Betty    | Evelyn     | Ava        | Harold    | Lilly   | Harry      |
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| Kathy     | Andy       | Nelia      | Manuel   | Tina       | Dave       | Joan      | Martha  | Mickey     |
| Sue       | Steve      | Rick       | Bob      | Marty      | Bill       | George    | Susan   | Cheryl     |
| Garrett   | Lois       | Linda      | Nick     | Rachel     | Lawrence   | Dewayne   | Rita    | Margaret   |
| Kathy     | Karen      | Akadrianna | Bonnie   | Steve      | Kathy      | George    | Peter   | Lori       |
| Peggy     | Pat        | Janet      | Misti    | Kim        | Sheryl Sue | Richard   | Kay     | Bob        |
| Mr. L     | Jodie      | Julie      | Kristine | Mary Jane  | Gipsy      | Nicole    | Junie   | Susan      |
| Becky     | Matt       | Delora     | Alfredo  | Carol      | Jo         | Susan     | Bob     | Gail       |
| Frank     | Susan      | Kathy      | Virginia | Grant      | Gino       | Dennis    | Carolyn | Susan      |
| Randy     | Hudson     | Sherry     | Linda    | Rob        | Sitara     | Pamela    | Helga   | Lin        |
| Sue       | David      | Adair      | Tracy    | Andre      | Robert     | Terry Joe | Jim     | Shalundria |
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| Susan     | Lynda      | Mike       | Inez     | Linda      | Kellison   | Darcy     | Lana    | Danny      |
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| Priscilla | Sean       | Anne       | Tom      | Ivan       | Joyce      | Matilda   | Toni    | Angela     |
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| Bubba     | Lori       | Lois       | Ethan    | Emily      | Dee Ann    | Jackie    | Gail    | Randy      |
| Althea    | Katrina    | Gracie     | Myrna    | Bob        | John       | Vicki     | Eric    | Les        |
| Robbin    | Gregg      | Tom        | Don      | Quentin    | Maura      | Roseann   | Yvonne  | Tom        |
| Correy    | Ruth       | Johnnie    | Will     | Donna      | Leon       | Maryellen | Peggy   | Kevin      |
| David     | Sam        | Linda      | Ric      | Christian  | Ann        | Sylvia    | Bunny   | Seth       |
| Angela    | Pete       | Maurice    | Randy    | Kathy      | Leona      | Brenda    | Seth    | Nina       |
| Maryann   | Gina       | Gary       | Carlos   | Toni       | Cynthia    | Gene      | Beverly | Kevin      |
| Bill      | Duke       | Pat        | Mike     | Gloria     | Dallas     | Tina      | Harry   | Mickey     |
| Tina      | Don        | Dylan      | Tina     | Althea     | Wayne      | Leonard   | Brenda  | Nikki      |
| Edward    | Jack       | Carolyn    | Traci    | Cathy      | Kathy      | Jodi      | Laura   | Carletta   |
| Dianne    | John       | Rusty      | Trista   | Grace      | Taylor     | Johnny    | Deborah | Molly      |
| Vicky     | Richard    | Cindy      | Timi     | James Earl | Keith      | Itai      | David   |            |

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.