



# Stronghold Ministry's Monthly Newsletter

## The Exchanger

March 2011

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Jesus always brings some form of compassion.
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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."

### Coming Events

#### Healing Prayer Meeting

3rd Tuesdays  
7:00-8:00 p.m.  
@ Dallas Bible Church

#### Abiding Prayer Group for Women

Friday mornings  
9-10:30 a.m.  
@ Dallas Bible Church

#### Ephesians Bible Study for Men

Friday mornings  
6:30-8:00 a.m.  
@ Dallas Bible Church  
Call 214-221-7007 for info.

## True Compassion

-Terri Fornear

I am a pretty melancholy person. I can sit and think of something sad in a minute and get all teary eyed. Especially when I read emails of patients that are right in the middle of their battle. All the memories of Joe's days of struggle seem so close even though it has been seven years.

I have been learning a lot about Jesus' compassion. His compassion always preceded an action or a miracle. He was always aware of the needs around Him, and ready to do something about it. I look at the needs around me and feel overwhelmed or paralyzed. I am so glad He is not like me. In fact He is teaching me to take those "needs" directly and immediately to Him to do something about them.

The Gospels tell us that Jesus had "compassion" many times: on the crowd that had no food; a leper; a demon-possessed man; a blind man; a Centurion and his son; a prodigal son; a paralytic; and a deaf man. He seemed to have compassion on every human impossibility.

I think it is interesting that God is willing to walk in the midst of pain and impossibilities. I want to ask, "Why do you allow pain? Wave your wand and take it away." That seems like the easiest way to deal with things... from my perspective.

Then He reminds me of His Cross. The cross He died on to pay the price for the pain we live in now. The pain that came because of man's first doubt of God's character. A doubt that brought independence from our Maker, which then brought more pain. His great act of compassion was dying on the cross for man's independence. His compassion shouts all day long, "Come to me. Let me live in you and provide what you need to get through today's pain." And eventually we will live with Him in a pain-free zone. His wand will be waved for those who are willing to take their doubts to Him to experience His true compassion.



### Healing Prayer Meeting—monthly in Dallas

Sometimes God wants to show off His power over our most difficult obstacles... like cancer. Come pray with us for your miracle at our **Healing Prayer Services**. We don't guarantee miracles, but we certainly believe we should ask for one! "You do not have because you do not ask" (James 4:2). Bring your loved ones to pray together with us. Or, as was commonly practiced in the Bible, come as a proxy for someone who is not able to come. Let's just see what He will do!

#### Healing Prayer Meeting—Stronghold Ministry

3rd Tuesday of each month 7:00-8:00 p.m. @ Dallas Bible Church  
15765 Hillcrest Road, Dallas, TX 75248  
Call 214-221-7007 for more info.

## Testimony Time

We are featuring stories of those we serve who are fighting cancer. This month we share the incredible story of **Johnnie H**, who had two pancreas transplants, and with God's intervention has recently become cancer free of lymphoma. His wife **Jerita** is pictured here with Johnnie.

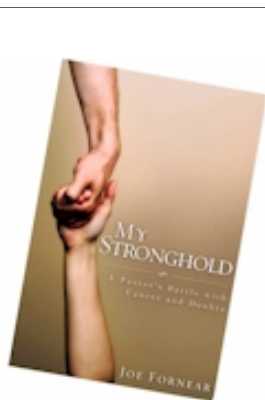
When I was diagnosed with Stage 4 lymphoma in my intestinal tract, my first thought was, "Here we go again, God and I are now facing another battle." During a car accident in 1998, my pancreas was punctured and enzymes leaked into my abdominal cavity. These digestive enzymes allow our bodies to digest food, but these enzymes (acids) were destroying everything in my abdominal cavity. 1/3 of my liver was gone, most of the tough lining of my stomach had been eaten away. I had no gall bladder or spleen and my duodenum was almost destroyed. The doctors outlook was not the least bit encouraging. This episode in my life lasted 8 years; included 43 major surgeries; over 1,400 days of hospitalization; and ended with 2 separate pancreas transplants. The second proved to be a huge success and I began getting well... finally.

Cancer is a word that immediately sends our minds into a tailspin. The thought of dying cannot fail to enter into your mind. My faith in God allowed me to face the cancer with a confident attitude, knowing I truly was facing a win/win phase in my life. I have had a very comfortable, rewarding, and happy life. The touch of God's hand, his love and his never-changing faithfulness has continually strengthened my faith in him. I cannot take credit for any good decisions I have made, nor any of the amazing things that have happened to me. God has been the determining factor in my life, even when I would begin to believe at times that I was a really smart guy, and mistakenly give myself credit. God is a forgiving God, and I have been a work in progress my entire life, and continue to be. I believe that God is in control of my life, and I do my best to willingly give him the reins.

I want to say once again, this "miracle from God's hands" is not about me. It is totally about God's blessings to his children. I have had comments from many, many, many people, both after my first illness (1987-1995) and this illness (August 2009—October 2010). One thought was running through each of the comments: people felt blessed as they watched God work in my life. Hearing those comments was magnificent medicine for my health and a healing balm for my mind and attitude. Being used as an instrument for God's work was a greater blessing to me than my return to health. Being fully healed was simply the finishing touch to God's work in my life.

Joe Fornear and Stronghold Ministry were a tremendous encouragement to me during the depths of my fight with cancer. I believe Joe's presence in my hospital room in Dallas was due to and all about God and his love for us. Joe's testimony is even more amazing than mine and was that extra boost for our faith when we really needed it. I thank God for Joe and his ministry as he works day by day to help and encourage those who are suffering.

Visit Johnnie's blog at <http://everesttrekker.wordpress.com/2011/01/29/my-posts-during-my-battle-with-cancer/>



### 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

<http://www.mystronghold.org/Blog/>



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

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 we will remove - [jfor@mystronghold.org](mailto:jfor@mystronghold.org).