**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.

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.
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).

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.

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

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  Tina  Bob
Laura  Melody  Cheryl  Lisa  Mike  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  Agnes  Maria
Joan  Debra  Sharon  Brian  Jack  Cathy
Brian  Michael S.  Luke  Dave  Naomi  Grace
Joanne  Debbie  Nancy  Bill  John Matthew  James Earl
Kathy  Barb  Nancy  Mary  John  Cathy
Sue  Kent  Holly  Joanne  Kristen  Sandy
Garrett  Ted  Diane  Marilyn  Amy
Kathy  Andy  Allison  Johnny  John
Peggy  Steve  Randy  Pat  Leonard  Steve
Mr. L  Lois  Nelia  Mary  Penny  Donna
Becky  Karen  Rick  Charles  Betty  Bonnie
Frank  Pat  Linda  Bill  Lisa  Amy
Randy  Jodie  Akadianna  Karen  Mechias  Debra
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.

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.