Lighting Up the Dark

-by Joe Fornear

But there will be no more gloom for her who was in anguish; in earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He shall make it glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles. The people who walk in darkness Will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them. You shall multiply the nation, You shall increase their gladness; They will be glad in Your presence As with the gladness of harvest.

—Isaiah 9:1-3

There are few experiences in life that prepare a person for a battle with cancer. The disease and the treatments produce clouds of confusion, pain and depression which envelope the soul, resulting in a season of darkness. Fortunately for us, our God is an overcoming God and He makes us “more than conquerors” in every situation (Romans 8:37).

Because of the unveiling of the Son of God in human flesh, we can soak up the light of God’s presence! He drives away darkness when He enters our heart. Have you invited Him into your heart?

Fornear’s on The 700 Club

The 700 Club aired a six-minute interview with Joe and Terri Fornear about Joe’s miracle healing of advanced melanoma. To view the interview on YouTube—click on the picture or paste in this link below:

youtube.com/watch?v=OAFxixb7wo

Or search “Joe Fornear” on www.youtube.com.

If you’d like to make an end of year donation to Stronghold—go to www.mystronghold.org/Donate.html

Stronghold Christmas Reception & New Book Launch

Joe and Terri Fornear’s new devotional book, *In His Grip, Meditations with The Great Physician* is now available online at www.mystronghold.org/In_His_Grip.html. An excerpt:

Think for a moment of a human hero of yours. It is one thing to know all about your hero, but it is quite another when he knows everything about you! Nothing could be better than to be personally “known” by God Himself! He knows you!

Join the staff and Board of Directors of Stronghold Ministry on Tuesday, December 13th at The Hope Center to celebrate Jesus’ birth and the launch of *In His Grip*. The Fornears will be signing books at the Hope Center from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. and also during our come-and-go Christmas reception from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served in the evening. Drop in and celebrate the goodness of Jesus with us!

Tuesday, December 13th 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. & 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
The Hope Center in Plano, TX
2001 W. Plano Parkway Plano, TX 75075
Testimony Time
This month we share the inspirational story of Diana Wenzel, pictured with husband Dan, & sons, Everett & Justus.

My story begins in October of 2008 when I was diagnosed with Burkitt's Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma. They recommended the CVAD treatment of 8 rounds of high dose chemotherapy over a 6 month period. Each treatment consisted of 4-5 days of round-the-clock chemo (lots of different ones) administered in the hospital. By April of 2009, I had finished all of the treatments and was home recovering. All of my scans were clear (over the next year and a half) so my chances of getting lymphoma again are pretty much zero.

My blood counts however were up and down and that is fairly normal after intense chemotherapy, but in January 2011 my oncologist detected a downward trend. It was bone marrow failure. I was diagnosed with Myelodysplastic Syndrome. My only cure was a stem cell transplant, which I had August 1, 2011 and I am thankful that that my sister was a matching bone marrow donor. That was just the beginning of the many miracles the Lord God did for me over the last few months. Today I am 4 months post-transplant and all of my blood counts are in the normal range!

There were many verses that brought me comfort in the midst of my fear but my favorite one was, “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland” (Isaiah 43:18-19). I never felt God left me or was not in control of my situation. He says “I will never leave you or forsake you” (Joshua 1:5) and He never did. God has a plan to “prosper and not to harm me” (Jeremiah 24:11).

I want you to know how much Stronghold Ministry has meant to me before, during, and after my stem cell transplant. Several months ago I came to the healing service on Tuesday night when I found out that I had to go through with the transplant. I felt nothing but love, peace and encouragement from the people involved with your ministry. I also received a stronger inclination to pray for complete healing with confidence before God. The time I was in the hospital awaiting the transplant was a scary time for me and Joe, Terri and also others from the healing service constantly encouraged me by writing notes on my Caring Bridge, sending cards, and praying for me. I am amazed by the love that is in your ministry. God's heart is in it and you can feel it!

Now that am recovering and healing, you are still there encouraging, loving on me and just doing what you do best. Thank you for being a hope to the hopeless and lighting the way during a very dark time for me! So far, the transplant has been a success and to God be the glory for all he has done for me!

Please pray with us for the ongoing success of Diana’s stem cell transplant and her total recovery! You can keep up with Diana’s recovery on Caringbridge.org —search for Diana Wenzel.

My Stronghold
Visit our website for more on Joe & Terri 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

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 be in your corner!
Stronghold is reaching out to these individuals who are fighting cancer, or are survivors, and 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?

Please join us in prayer for these warriors.

Mike D  Debra  Matt  Trista  Phil  Chuck  Pat  Adrienne  Elizabeth  John  Sonja  Bill
Mr. W  Michael S.  Mike  Timi  Fred  Darcy  Pat  Tommy  Ron  Cecilia  Sandy
John  Debbie  Mildred  Jordan  Cosme  Eloisa  Fran  David  Lenna  Renita  Jose
Bill  Barb  Anne  Scott  Anna  Matilda  Bryan  John  Amy  Michelle  Allie
Jon N  Kent  Fred  Maria  Ava  Barbara  Charlie  Peck  Sandra  Linda  Elaine
Claudia  Andy  Lois  Naomi  Dave  Jackie  Bob  JoAnne  Charles  Ruth  Larry
Jeff  Steve  Gracie  Matthew  Bill  Sylvia  Kevin  Glenzine  Janet  Briana  Pat
Carolyn  Lois  Tom  Lori  Lawrence  Brenda  Eric  Wendy  Grace  Christiana  Laura
Laura  Karen  Johnnie  Kristen  Kathy  Tina  Bob  Lucretia  Ester  Corinne  Larry
Mary Sue  Pat  Linda  John  Sheryl Sue  Leonard  Judy  Sherry  Dina  Pege  Gerry
Ed  Jodie  Maurice  Leonard  Gipsy  Jodi  Philip  Karen  Rick  Samantha  Stephanie
Milton  Susan  Gary  Penny  Jo  Johnny  Harry  Clayton  Chris  Mr. S  David  Elaine
Sara  Hudson  Pat  Betty  Gino  Itai  Ed  Jim  Charles  Mrs. R  Yolanda
Monette  Darlene  Carolyn  Mechelle  Becky  Chris  Cheryl  Kathy  Gino  David  Mary Dell
Joan  Lynda  Rusty  Phyllis  Kellison  Tommy  Margaret  Ben  Dave  Agit  Nancy
Brian  Yvette  Cindy  Mike  Linda  Danny  Lori  Bob  Andrea  Gene  Bobbie
Joanne  Sean  Brian  Hal  Joyce  Mini  Bob  Suzanne  Wendell  Jim  Lucy
Kathy  Frank  Nisha  Frank  Molly  Joe  Susan  Bryan  George  Sandra  Cherrie
Sue  Larry  Sherry  Evelyn  Louise  Jimmy  Jim  Mitch  Lynn  Chris  Jay
Garrett  Lori  Darcelle  Mary  Dee Ann  Heidi  Susan  Ann  Michael  Charlotte  Larry
Kathy  Katrina  Alon  Tina  John  Carol  Lin  Gwen  Sally  Debbie  Rosella
Peggy  Gregg  Jennifer  Marty  Maura  Michael  Shalundria  Serenity  Tommy  Margaret  Bob
Mr. L  Ruth  Agnes  Rachel  Leon  Debbie  Becky  Henry  Robert  Rockie  Ruth
Becky  Sam  Fred  Steve  Ann  Beth  Danny  David  Eddie  Maxine  Ann
Frank  Pete  Dave  Kim  Cynthia  Brenda  Simone  Tracy  Bob  Kate  Joe
Randy  Gina  Mary  Jane  Dallas  Julie  Angie  Bruce  Karen  Kathleen  Maurice
Sue  Duke  Joanne  Carol  Wayne  Cheryl  Fern  John  Johi  Jeffrey  Carmen
Mr. S  Don  Marilyn  Rob  Kathy  Sara  Charles  Marlene  Dennis  Ilaria  Trisha
Susan  Jack  Johnny  Andre  Taylor  Terri  Randy  Ben  John  Brian  Brandon
Mrs. L  John  Pat  John David  Keith  Lilly  Tom  Sherry  David  Ken  Jamie
Priscilla  Richard  Mary  Linda  Jon  George  Kevin  Audrey  Harold  Dave  Darlene
Stephanie  Lori  Charles  Dorcas  Clark  Martha  Seth  Linda  Don  Kelly  Deb
Lynne  Sheila  Bill  Ivan  Don  Susan  Nina  Peggy  Diane  Justin  Ria
Bobbie  Beverly  Karen  Nancy  Joe  Rita  Rosa  Jessica  William  Hollie  Lorinda
Althea  Darlene  Betty  Jessica  Sheryl  Peter  Kevin  Isabella  Charlotte  David  Carolyn
Robby  Cheryl  Mr. H  Emily  Kenedy  Kay  Mickey  Elaine  Angelica  Linda  Roderick
Correy  Karon  Manuel  Bob  Amy  Junie  Nikki  Joanie  Jenny  Casey  Sue
David  Jacob  Bob  Quentin  Cindy  Bob  Carletta  Liz  Benjamin  Jeff  Mary
Angela  Rebecca  Nick  Donna  Benji  Carolyn  Molly  Susan  Sherry  David  Kimberly  Jeff
Maryann  Susan  Bonnie  Christian  Pearl  Helga  Leslie  Mary  Charandeep  Marty  Dale
Bill  Ms. M  Misti  Kathy  Dale  Jim  Michel  Dick  Barbara  Carmela  Billie
Tina  Bill  Kristine  Toni  Phil  Mark  Buz  Diana  Glenda  Jan  Jim
Edward  Sharon  Alfredo  Gloria  William  Lana  Sheila  Lacey  Reb  Sherry  Ray
Dianne  Luke  Virginia  Althea  Bill  Sheryl  John  Adrian  Dianne  Sandie  Eva
Vicky  Nancy  Linda  Cathy  Meg  Toni  Stephen  Daniel  Brian  Emily  Jessica
Rachel  Holly  Vicky  Grace  Tim  Barbara  Cindy  Angela  Richard  Nicole  Joe
Stephanie  Diane  Inez  Pan  Michael  Mark  Jeff  Karen  Melissa  Jeremy  Michael
Judy  Allison  Kate  Sandra  Vicky  Gail  Martha  Robert  Tracy Lee  Cristy  Robert
Terri  Randy  Debbie  Steve  Harold  Peggy  Robert  Paula  Eric  Michael  Andrea
Megan  Nelia  Sara  Cathy  John  Bunny  Florence  Cole  Jeff  Betty  Lorene
Rick  Ruth  Ethan  Donna  Joan  Beverly  Diana  Claudese  Bill  Josiah  Mark
Hank  Linda  Myrna  Bonnie  George  Brenda  Sam  Mary  Jane  Rachel
Tony  Akadrianne  Don  Debrah  Dewayne  Laura  Jeff  Marci  Woody  Larry
Melody  Janet  Will  Fred  Richard  Deborah  Mike  Christi  Kim  Glen
Susan  Julie  Ric  JL  Nicole  David  Will  Darlene L.  Charles  Keith
Joseph  Delora  Randy  Betty  Susan  Larry  Susan  Jim  Betty  Gale
Michael  Kathy  Carlos  Will  Dennis  Julie  Joe  Mark  Patsy  Lynn
Robert  Sherry  Mike  Celine  Pamela  Helga  James  Sarah  Nick  Virginia
Mike  Adair  Tina  Donna  Terry Joe  Lisa  Gayle  Steve  Brendon  Janet

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.