

# Stronghold Ministry's Monthly Newsletter The Exchanger

November 2011

## Inside this issue:

Saving Hand of the Lord 1 Zinda Fuller, Stronghold Ministry Administrator, shares how the Lord carried her family through her daughter Kate's serious car accident.

**700 Club Interview** 1 The 700 Club aired a six minute interview of Joe and Terri's miracle. You can watch it online now.

From the Front Lines 2 Kate Fuller shares the lessons she gleaned from her serious car accident.

Prayer Wall3Please join us in prayer for our<br/>patients.

Tell us <u>your</u> story. We want to be "in your corner."

# **Coming Events**

In November, Joe and Terri plan to publish their new devotional book, *In His Grip, Meditations with The Great Physician.* 

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

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Call 214-221-7007 for info.

# The Saving Hand of the Lord

-by Zinda Fuller, Administrator with Stronghold Ministry (Read Kate Fuller's testimony on page 2)

I've heard it said, "We're all just a phone call away from hitting our knees." That call for my husband Frank and I came in late July when we were enjoying dinner with friends in Houston. Frank was anticipating our daughter Kate's call saying she had arrived safely in College Station, where she was to enter her final year at Texas A&M. The phone rang: "Is this Frank Fuller? Your daughter has been in a serious roll-over accident."

A dear man who had pulled her out of the car just before it caught on fire was the caller. Frank could hear Kate's wails in the background. "Daddy, I lost my THUMB!!" The drive to reach Kate would take an hour and a half, but it seemed we arrived in just minutes.



We had no other details about the accident. It was serious enough for Kate to have lost her thumb, and yet, I was fully aware of the Lord's presence and peace. Frank drove FAST while I made calls to friends and family for prayer. When we arrived at the ER entrance of the hospital, we were greeted by *many* of Kate's friends from her church. Though we weren't immediately at her side, the

Lord had never left it. She would need all the comfort she could get as we learned that she had also fractured her neck in the accident.

Three months out, He's never left her side – nor ours. At times, this journey has been difficult. Some days are long and we grow weary of doctor appointments, surgeries and hand therapy sessions. And yet, each day brings a new blessing or answer to prayer. Each and every need has been met. When I am weak, my Lord is (still) strong. HE always has been and always will be our sufficiency.

Kate had surgery to repair the fractures in her neck in September and she is healing beautifully. Her reconstructive hand surgery is on November 11 in Chicago. If all goes according to (His) plan, she will be back to college in January. It's further evidence of His love and protection that Kate lost her RIGHT thumb in the accident but she is LEFT-handed. Coincidence? I think not! God is so gracious. "Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes, and with Your *right* hand you save me" (Psalm 138:7).

## Fornear's Miracle Featured on The 700 Club

The 700 Club aired a six minute interview of Joe and Terri on their battle and Joe's miracle recovery from Stage IV metastatic melanoma. To view the interview on YouTube—click on the picture to the right or paste in this link below: www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAFxixbj7wo Or go to YouTube and search "Joe Fornear."



PO Box 38478 Dallas, TX 75238 | Toll free number - 877-230-7674 | www.mystronghold.org | jfor@mystronghold.org

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#### Stronghold Ministry

#### The Exchanger

## **Testimony Time**

This month we share **Kate Fuller's** reflections on her serious car accident in late July, 2011. Kate is the 21-year-old daughter of Stronghold's Administrator Zinda, who wrote about Kate's accident from her caretaker's perspective on page 1.

Just over 3 months ago, life as I knew it came crashing down. Literally. I was driving the familiar path from Dallas to College Station, jamming out to the radio, excited to move to a new house with new friends and start my senior year. I had no idea that I would soon be flipping my car repeatedly, going in and out of consciousness, would lose my right thumb, fracture my neck, and be crippled with fear and confusion as to what had just happened. What would this car accident mean for my semester and the rest of my life???



It's unnerving how easily I found myself with a wavering at best, or even absent faith. I was stuck on how much I wanted my circumstances to change instead of trusting God's promise to have a perfect plan for my life and rejoicing that He chose me to be an example on suffering well.

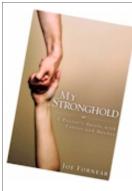
For a while, I just had to rely on the support and prayers of others because I was too mentally and physically "exhausted" to pray or find the faith I knew I had deep down in me to press forward and move on. Looking back on the past few months, I wish I could say that my attitude was great, that my "bad" days were few, and that I embraced the changes made to my body and my plans. Instead, it's taken many tears, much doubt, and many questions to bring me to a point where I can say that one day I'll see why I lost my thumb, why I was frighteningly close to paralysis, why I had to make decisions I was too young to make, why I had to miss school this semester and be isolated from college friends and church family. I already see some of the reasons.

In a recent conversation, a friend asked a question that has stuck with me and convicted me. He said, "Kate, what if there are even harder times down the road?" Wow. He's right. How I face my circumstances now could either hurt or help how I face other trials in the future.

Learning to focus on taking one day at a time is still something I'm struggling with. Too often, I get bombarded by anxiety in looking ahead. Isaiah 41:13 has been very special to me, "For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your *right hand* and says to you, 'Do not fear; I will help you.'" I am fast approaching the date of the reconstructive surgery for my hand and I feel a wave of emotions as I enter into another unknown. But, I have learned over and over again, I wasn't made to know the big picture, or why events happen at certain times to certain people. I was made to trust and be completely dependent on my God, knowing He knows all and sees all and is ALWAYS good. He will mourn with me, but at the end of the day, I think He longs for me to rest and rejoice in Him.

Please pray with us for the success of Kate's hand surgery and her total recovery!





### My Stronghold - The book

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 share your burden.





#### Meditations with the Great Physician

by joe and terri forne.

## **New Book**

Joe and Terri Fornear are preparing to publish a devotional book, *In His Grip, Meditations with The Great Physician.* Stay tuned.

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## Please join us in prayer for these warriors

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?

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