

#### Stronghold Ministry's Monthly Newsletter

## The Exchanger

October 2011

#### Inside this issue:

## The Mountain of the Lord 1 The sacrifice, when all is said and done, is all His.

# Fundraiser Banquet 1 Our banquet in October was a huge boost and encouragement to our outreach to cancer patients.

## From the Front Lines 2 *Sara D*. shares how she would not trade her battle with leukemia for anything.

## Prayer Wall Please join us in prayer for our patients.

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

#### **Coming Events**

Joe and Terri share their testimony on God's use of pain and suffering at a Spiritual Life class at Dallas Seminary.

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

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#### **Healing Prayer Meeting**

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

Call 214-221-7007 for info.

#### The Mountain of the Lord

-by Terri Fornear

At the foot of the mountain I hear Your Voice, Your call, Go make a sacrifice to Me.

As I begin my climb
All I have is stripped away,
To make the journey easier.
No things to drag,
no friends to lean on,
no dreams to carry.

Just me and a clinging heart, a bottle of saved up tears, insecurities, and imagined fears. At the top of the mountain I look for a way out. All I see is bushes, trees, thorns, and weeds. Camouflaged in trials and struggles of everyday life... disappointments, hurts, and bruises.



I lay down Lord at Your feet wiggling as I give You my sacrifice... of me.
Then I see in the bush a crown of thorns, four rusty old nails, and a cross of wood.
On the mountain of the Lord You have provided.

#### **Fundraising Banquet**

We are grateful for the excellent turnout and response at our fundraising banquet. We are confident that many people fighting cancer will be blessed as a result of the outpouring of support. Stay tuned for our *Virtual Banquet*, which will enable you to watch videos of the evening's presentations.





#### **Stronghold Ministry Now Member of ECFA**

Stronghold Ministry is pleased to announce that we have been accepted into membership of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. The ECFA is an accreditation agency dedicated to helping Christian ministries earn the public's trust through adherence to Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship<sup>TM</sup>. Founded in 1979, ECFA provides accreditation to leading Christian nonprofit organizations that faithfully demonstrate compliance with established standards for financial accountability, fundraising and board governance. Members include Christian ministries, denominations, churches, educational institutions and other tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations. Collectively, these organizations represent more than \$18 billion in annual revenue.

Find out more at ECFA.org.

#### **Testimony Time**

This month we share excerpts\* of an amazing blog post of Sara D. She had a bone marrow transplant in September 2009 after being diagnosed with leukemia in 2008, but is now free of leukemia cells. She has endured many setbacks from graft vs host complications. Her legs have been weakened by steroid treatments, and she fell and required a hip replacement. She has also battled frequent infections.



#### I WOULDN'T TRADE

I'll start with what seems to be a crazy statement. *I would not trade this* season of my life for anything. I have received so much from the Lord. I have experienced His faithfulness; He has lavished me with His love; I have seen His provision; and He has taught me valuable lessons.

God has shown me His faithfulness through an indescribable peace - peace that truly passes any human understanding. As I experienced numerous "bumps" along the way, that peace has sustained me. I went through a period where I felt spiritually dry. I continued to read my Bible and pray, but I did not feel engaged. I also experienced extreme insomnia during that time. I believe the many prayers that were offered on my behalf sustained me and moved me through that low period.

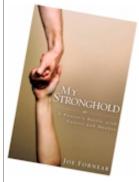
I have seen God's provision in many ways. He has given me a supportive husband and children, and an extended family that surrounded me. Their loyalty and undying commitment has supported me throughout this entire ordeal. As each of them has walked this journey with me, they have grown in their own ways.

God provided me with an endless number of friends and family members who have literally taken care of my every need by: providing meals, transporting me to the doctors and physical therapy appointments, grocery shopping, feeding the pets, remodeling our home, and even providing a stationary bike for my exercise. Many who were not able to help physically were constant in prayer on my behalf. You will never know how encouraging those notes on CaringBridge have been. Reading the kind things that have been said were so refreshing to me. I know that many churches and other groups are interceding even now in prayer, and this brings me comfort.

I have also learned that every day that we are alive is a blessing, and each day stands alone. What we do with each day can have eternal purposes, or we can waste it with frivolity and a negative attitude. Life is too short to make a big deal out of little things. We must take the opportunity to tell others just how much we love and appreciate them. In His Grasp, Sara

#### PS: I WOULDN'T TRADE THIS SEASON OF MY LIFE FOR ANYTHING!

Please pray with us for Sara's complete healing!
\*Read all of Sara's post on Sunday, July 17, 2011 at www.caringbridge.org/visit/saradubose/journal

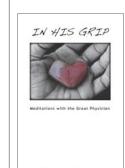


#### My Stronghold - The book

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.



#### New Book

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



### Stronghold Prayer Wall



#### 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?

Mike D	Michael	Akadrianna	Debbie	Grace	William	Helga	Kevin	Ben	Karen	Rockie
Mr. W	Robert	Janet	Sara	Pam	Bill	Jim	Mickey	Sherri	Jobi	Maxine
John	Mike	Julie	Ethan	Sandra	Meg	Mark	Nikki	Audrey	Dennis	Kate
Bill	Debra	Delora	Myrna	Steve	Tim	Lana	Carletta	Linda	John	Kathleen
Jon N	Michael S.	Kathy	Don	Cathy	Michael	Sheryl	Molly	Peggy	David	Jeffrey
Gloria	Debbie	Sherry	Will	Donna	Vicky	Toni	Leslie	Jessica	Harold	Ilaria
Claudia	Barb	Adair	Ric	Bonnie	Harold	Barbara	Michel	Isabella	Don	Brian
Jeff	Kent	Matt	Randy	Debrah	John	Mark	Buz	Elaine	Diane	Ken
Carolyn	Ted	Mike	Carlos	Fred	Joan	Gail	Sheila	Joanie	William	Dave
Laura	Andy	Mildred	Mike	${f JL}$	George	Yvonne	John	Liz	Charlotte	Kelly
Mary Sue	Steve	Anne	Tina	Betty	Dewayne	Peggy	Stephen	Susan	Angelica	Justin
Ed	Lois	Fred	Trista	Will	Richard	Bunny	Cindy	Mary	Jenny	Kenedy
Milton	Karen	Kaye	Timi	Celine	Nicole	Beverly	Jeff	Dick	Benjamin	Hollie
Sara	Pat	Lois	Jordan	Donna	Susan	Brenda	Martha	Diana	Sherri	Deborah
Rex	Jodie	Gracie	Scott	Phil	Dennis	Laura	Robert	Lacey	Charandeep	David
Monette	Matt	Tom	Maria	Fred	Pamela	Deborah	Florence	Adrian	Barbara	Linda
Joan	Susan	Johnnie	Jack	Cosme	Terry Joe	David	Diana	Daniel	Glenda	Casey
Brian	Hudson	Linda	Naomi	Anna	Chuck	Larry	Sam	Angela	Reb	Jeff
Joanne	David	Maurice	Matthew	Ava	Darcy	Julie	Jeff	Karen	Dianne	Kimberly
Kathy	Darlene	Gary	Lori	Evelyn	Eloisa	Helga	Mike	Robert	Brian	Marty
Sue	Lynda	Pat	Kristen	Dave	Matilda	Lisa	Will	Paula	Richard	Carmela
Garrett	Yvette	Dylan	John	Bill	Barbara	Adrienne	Susan	Cole	Melissa	Jan
Kathy	Sean	Carolyn	Leonard	Lawrence	Jamie	Pat	Joe	Claudese	TracyLee	Sherri
Peggy	Frank	Rusty	Penny	Kathy	Jackie	Fran	James	Mary	Eric	Sandie
Mr. L	Larry	Cindy	Betty	Sheryl Sue	Sylvia	Bryan	Gayle	Marci	Jeff	Emily
Becky	Lori	Brian	Lisa	Gipsy	Brenda	Charlie	Elizabeth	Christi	Bill	Nicole
Frank	Katrina	Nisha	Mechas	Jo	Tina	Lanette	Tommy	Darlene L.	Jane	Jeremy
Randy	Gregg	Sherri	Phyllis	Gino	Leonard	Bob	David	Jim	Woody	Cristy
Sue	Ruth	Darcelle	Mike	Robert	Jodi	Kevin	Lori	Mark	Kim	Michael
Mr. S	Sam	Alan	Hal	Becky	Johnny	Eric	Maria	Sarah	Charles	Datte
Susan	Pete	Jennifer	Frank	Kellison	Itai	Bob	Peck	Steve	Betty	Betty Josiah
Mrs. L	Gina	Agnes	Evelyn	Linda	Ken	Judy	Tim	John	Patsy	Rachel
Priscilla	Duke	Fred	Mary	Joyce	Chris	Philip	JoAnne	Ron	Nick	
Stephanie	Don	Dave	Tina	Molly	Tommy	Harry	Glenzine	Lenna	Brendon	Larry Glen
Lynne	Jack	Mary	Marty	Louise	Danny	Ed	Wendy	Amy	Sonja	Keith
Bubba	John	Joanne	Rachel	Dee Ann	Mimi	Mickey	Lucretia	Sandra	Cecilia	Gale
Althea	Richard	Marilynn	Steve	John	Joe	Cheryl	Sherri	Patricia	Renita	Lynn
Robbin	Lori	Johnny	Kim	Maura	Jimmy	Margaret	Karen	Charles	Michelle	Virginia
Correy	Sheila	Pat	Mary Jane	Leon	Heidi	Lori	Clayton	Janet	Linda	Janet
David	Beverly	Mary	Carol	Ann	Carol	Bob	Jim	Grace	Pam	Bill
Angela	Darlene	Charles	Rob	Cynthia	Michael	Susan	Nancy	Ester	Ruth	Susan
Maryann	Cheryl	Bill	Andre	Dallas	Debbie	Gail	Kathy	Dina	Briana	Sandy
Bill	Karon	Karen	John David	Wayne	Beth	Susan	Ben	Rick	Christiana	Jose
Tina	Jacob	Betty	Linda	Kathy	Brenda	Lin	Robin	Chris	Corinne	Allie
Edward	Rebecca	Mr. H	Dorcas	Taylor	Julie	Shalundria	Suzanne	Charles	Pege	Elaine
Dianne	Susan	Manuel	Ivan	Keith	Cheryl	Becky	Bryan	Rick	Samantha	Robin
Vicky	Ms. M	Bob	Nancy	Jon	Sara	Danny	Mitch	Gino	David	Larry
Rachel	Bill	Nick	Jessica	Clark	Terri	Simone	Ann	Dave	Mrs. R	Pat
Stephanie	Sharon	Bonnie	Emily	Don	Lilly	Angela	Gwen	Andrea	Jennifer	Laura
Judy	Luke	Misti	Bob	Joe	George	Fern	Serenity	Wendell	David	Larry
Terri	Nancy	Kristine	Quentin	Sheryl	Martha	Charles	David	George	Agit	Gerry
Megan	Holly	Alfredo	Donna	Kenedy	Susan	Randy	Serenity	Lynn	Gene	Stephanie
Ruth	Diane	Virginia	Christian	Amy	Rita	Tom	Henry	Michael	Jim	Stephen
Hank	Allison	Linda	Kathy	Cindy	Peter	Kevin	David	Sally	Saundra	Elaine
Tony	Randy	Tracy	Toni	Benji	Kay	Seth	Tracy	Tommy	Chris	Yolanda
Melody	Nelia	Vicky	Gloria	Pearl	Junie	Nina	Bruce	Robert	Charlotte	1 Oldinia
Susan	Rick	Inez	Althea	Dale	Bob	Rosa	John	Eddie	Debbie	
Joseph	Linda	Kate	Cathy	Phil	Carolyn		Marlene	Bob	Margaret	

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 <u>any</u> reason, please write and we will remove - jfor@mystronghold.org.