Abiding While I Wait in Unanswered Prayer

And behold, one of those who was with Jesus reached and drew out his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels?”

So often I think God is a million miles away. He lets me watch the pain of those I love, whether it is physical pain, pain of rejection and failure, or pain of dying to their dreams. He doesn’t answer what I think is an urgent plea for them. So I do not feel all that love that everyone says God is. I see people hurting. People I love. No relief; and I am helpless in fixing that pain. Watching without being able to change anything brings me to the end of my resources faster than anything.

Jesus then takes me with Him as He shows me the road He walked that day He went to the cross. Perfect surrender, perfect rest. He didn’t need Peter’s sword or Peter’s help. He knew He had a Father that could release a legion of angels to deliver Him. And His Father was not going to deliver Him at this moment. He did not fight, He kept walking towards the cup He was going to drink.

Sometimes my cup is full of watching others hurt. I want to pull out my sword and make a way of clarity and smoothness for them. He helps me put that sword away as I abide in His ability to trust His Father, when I can’t. He reminds me that God’s love is full of purpose, and the cup of pain that I see others drinking will lead them to the same resurrected life that Jesus experienced, as He releases His power in them through their weakness.

-Terri Fornear
Testimony Time

We are featuring the stories of warriors and caretakers we serve. This month, we share the thank you notes of three warriors. Please pray for their healing.

From Vivian who is battling breast cancer. Please contact us if you would like to connect with Vivian regarding pursuing a holistic/prayer approach to healing.

Dear Pastors Joe and Terri,

I was overwhelmed by your loving generosity (after receiving a Stronghold gift basket). I was brought to tears. Joe, I read your book in two hours. It was amazing how God used the chemo at the 11th hour as it were. So sorry you lost your Dad to the same disease. As always, wished I had been blessed with a large family. Even a small family would have been great. But I was a sickly baby born with a tumor on my head and got left in the hospital. Do you recall the song, “I Know Your Name?” It goes on to say, “I know your every thought. I see each tear that falls and I hear you when you call.” Yes, Joe and Terri, the Lord knew me and wanted me when no one else did. How I love Jesus.

Blessings to you & Love in Christ,
Vivian

From Matt who has been fighting Stage IV melanoma for two years.

Dear Joe,

I wanted to thank you for the gift basket you sent me and all the inspiration in the basket as well as felt by the material. You are an inspiration and a great ambassador of God's work.

Thank you for you!
Matt

From Betty who has been battling colon cancer off and on for nine years. Also, Betty’s sister, Beverly, has been battling breast cancer off and on for almost ten years.

Dear Joe,

Thank you so very much for the box (basket) of books you sent. You had said you would be sending a box of goodies but was surprised when I received so much. I am proud of each and every thing. And have some very good reading material. You have a wonderful ministry. I know you touch the lives of many people and that they, like me, appreciate you and what you are doing. You have certainly been a blessing to me.

God Bless You.
Sincerely,
Betty
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 (some 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     Sue     Dianne     Barb     Pete
Brisy      Dave    Michelle    Kent     Gina
Bekah      Garrett Vicky     Ted     Duke
Mike P     Kathy    Beth     Andy     Don
Donna      Peggy    Tiffany    Steve     Jack
Janice     Mr. L    Rachel    Lois     John
Mr. W      Becky    Stephanie Chuck     Richard
John       Frank    Judy     Karen     Lori
Bill       Randy    Terri     Pat     Sheila
Jon N      Sue     Megan     Jodie     Betty
Rich       Mr. S    Ruth     Matt     Beverly
Gloria     Susan    Hank     Susan     Martha
Claudia    Mrs. L   Vivian    Hudson     Darlene
Jeff       Priscilla Tony     Craig     Cheryl
Carolyn    Stephanie Melody    David     Karon
Laura      Lynne    Phyllis    Darlene    Jacob
Mary Sue   Althea   Michael    Lynda     Rebecca
Ed         Kevin    Susan     Yvette     Anne
Milton     Robbin  Joseph    Sean     Susan
Sara       Correy   Emily     Frank     Ms. M
Rex         David    Michael    Larry     Mr. H
Monette    Angela    Robert    Lori     Allison
Joan       Maryann  Mike     Katrina
Brian      Bill     Debra     Gregg
Joanne     Tina     Michael S.  Ruth
Kathy      Edward   Debbie    Sam

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 us and ask us to remove. Write us at jfor@mystronghold.org.