

Transformation Ministry

Testimonies



www.stronginspirit.com

Testimony of W.W.

My soul is prospering, my life is being transformed, I'm a work in progress – on my way to a Masterpiece I am no longer a victim, I'm not carrying false burdens or false guilt. The disappointments of the past can no longer hide the face of God. I have a measure of peace and freedom I have never known before. There is a lot more room inside me for His presence and His higher purpose since Transformation Ministry!

Testimony of Mary

Thank you so much again for the life-changing ministry you led for my daughter and me. Life seems very different since that day, especially in the realm of not having to do battle all the time with so many voices inside. Other people, who know nothing of my Transformation experience, are telling me they are seeing a positive difference in my life as well. Thanks again!

Testimony of Liz

I can sure see a difference in my life after Transformation Ministry. I had backslidden after a divorce and it had been a long road back, not because God wasn't forgiving, but because the devil didn't want me to return to Him. All I can say is the blood of Jesus won again! I've found the biggest differences are that I'm able to pray more, study God's Word more and witness more – and I've got my joy back again!

Testimony of S.K.

Thank you Pastor Bruce, for your dedication and obedience to doing God's work! Coming from a past of depression, alcoholism, abuse, rapes, suicide attempts, and daily struggles with feelings of unworthiness, the enemy had built quite a prison around me to keep me in a constant state of worthlessness and helplessness. Since going through Transformation Ministry and reading your invaluable book, *Living The Strong In Spirit Way*, life has become exciting and joyful again! God has delivered me from the depression with which I had struggled since childhood so that I no longer need the anti-depressants I have used for years – and others are noticing a renewed happiness in my life too! In addition, He has healed my asthma and allergies, and has opened my eyes to how the enemy had kept me in bondage for so long through his destructive, debilitating lies. As you describe in your book – being free is truly a question of thriving instead of surviving. How sweet it is to be set free from that prison of believing those lies! I am peaceful, joyful and thriving in the Lord's truth instead of merely surviving now – praise God!

Testimony of Megan Joy

I had the privilege of leading my own daughter through Transformation Ministry. This is her Testimony...

God has really been working on me lately. I have been so broken-hearted and hurt that misery had taken over my life. Nothing was good enough. It was hard to sing during worship (which used to be one of my favorite things) because I felt God had failed me in areas of my life that were nearest and dearest to me.

I was full of anger at people who had done me wrong or those I felt were against me. I found myself going to church just so that I didn't have to explain myself to others. I have prayed for months and months for a breakthrough, and as much as I wanted it, I was also scared of it. But the thing that kept me praying was the memory of joy I once had. True joy. Not because of circumstances, but because of God welling up deep inside of me.

God has now started a work in me through hours of ministry with my father. A big weight has been lifted off me and although I still hurt and struggle with life's brutal realities, I no longer feel lost or deserted. The edge is knocked off and I can worship from my heart again. My negativity and hard heart have been softened. I have a long way to go, but at least I am going and am no longer stagnated. And that joy I once remembered is starting to grow deep inside again.

I now want to know God's call on my life again, where before I doubted that I even had one. God is reclaiming the territory in me that I took and the enemy took. I have a reason to keep breathing and a desire to live again. I thank God for His faithfulness! I'm feeling so much better after getting so many heavy weights off of me!

Testimony of Cathy

The first time that I heard about Transformation Ministry was at a Strong In Spirit Seminar. The Seminar showed me where I was at spiritually and where I needed and wanted to be. This was a year long answer to prayer and the cry of my heart! From going to the Strong In Spirit Seminar I knew that I also needed Transformation Ministry as well because I was full of fears – and fears of fears!

Though it was a bit of a challenge to answer the Transformation Inventory questions honestly and conquer the fears that Pastor Bruce would think I was too bad or too much to deal with, I wanted God's transformation more than anything in life. I had a lot of woundedness inside and was nearly out of hope, ready to give up on the dreams and callings God had on my life. I had let my flesh and the enemy rule me rather than fight them as I was so battle-weary. I was angry, critical, and judgmental. I did not cry because it was not okay from my past to do so and I got sick when I did. In addition, I over-ate, over-talked and isolated myself as well as feared people's opinions to such an extreme that I kept my blinds closed so no one would see me or inside my house. I was depressed and I daydreamed to cope with avoiding the painfulness of reality and being alone. I hoarded things to protect myself, to keep me from feeling I lacked any necessary items and to make me feel worthy because I thought not having basic items meant you had no worth as a person. I would listen to music, watch TV, read books and talk on the phone to deal with the deafening silence and loneliness in my life.

All this caused me to shut down inside for the most part. I quit going to church except once here or there. I quit reading my Bible and strongly doubted whether the promises of God were available to me. I was disillusioned with God, church and myself. I shut down the spiritual gifts that He had given me for fear of not hearing Him correctly. I did pray and worship occasionally, but sporadically. I was drying up and dying inside. My personal walk with Christ was ineffective, as was my witness for Him. I hated me, my weight and my gender. The enemy told me to end it all but I knew I couldn't – I just wasn't able to do what I needed to do and needed help to get there.

God met me into Transformation Ministry. It was safe, not abusive and confidential – and I needed that as trust and safety have always been big issues for me. I learned through the ministry session that God really does want to set me free, and that His love is bigger than I ever knew. The ministry team was very sensitive to the Holy Spirit and sensitive to me and we went at a pace that I could handle. Through this, I began to learn to distinguish my thoughts from the thoughts and voices inside that the enemy used to speak his lies to me. I also saw my spirit-man rise up with anger and indignation at the demons who were keeping me down and captive in life, and I began to fight them and gain strength in my spirit. I also found that a lot of the things I thought were true were really lies – beliefs about my worth before God and other deceptions I was repeating to myself.

By the end of the Transformation Ministry session, I felt much lighter in body, soul and spirit – I could tell that things had changed in me! I am smiling big smiles now – no more closed mouth smiles (because I was self-conscious of my teeth). I used to have trouble sleeping. Now I am getting deeper sleep. My blinds are open and I am able to sit in my living room in silence and be 'settled' before God. I can pray with sincerity for noisy neighbors and not be riled up inside if they don't quiet down right away. My mind and eye sight are both

clearer. I have literally had a heaviness taken out of my body and even my tongue! Now I am waking up with worship songs in my heart and I am singing them throughout the day as well.

My best friend noticed immediately that my countenance was brighter and lighter – before I ever told her about what had happened to me! When I told her that I was also now crying freely and not getting sick like I used to, she was amazed and expressed her happiness for me.

I've finally got my hope back and have gotten through the spiritual impasse I was stuck in. I now have tools that I did not have before, and am stronger in my spirit than I ever thought possible. I am even planning to fly and visit a friend halfway across the states – how about that for one who was fearful of heights, risk-taking, and so many other things? Now I'm excited! While I still fight spiritual battles, I am winning them for a change and learning valuable things in the process. God has restored me, given me strength in my spirit-man, brought me into a deeper awareness of who I am in Christ, revived the dreams and calling on my life and bound me to my destiny.

People today are crying out for revival – but revival begins with seeking God to transform our lives. Is it time for you? Are you ready to have your life transformed? I hope so for your sake, as well as for the Kingdom of God. I'm so glad God met me and has done a mighty work inside me that will powerfully impact my future and my fruitfulness for Him!

Testimony of Wanda

I was the first-born child in a very dysfunctional and abusive family. I grew up knowing from an early age that my parents rejected me and blamed all their troubles and pain on my presence in their lives. Because of this, I was regularly physically, verbally and emotionally abused by my parents, and grew up having great difficulty accepting love, trusting anyone and believing I was worthwhile or had anything to offer.

I was taken to church with my parents as a young child, but the love of God was never real to me and the hypocrisy of my parents thoroughly turned me off to church. Although I never fully gave up on God, I nevertheless felt my desperate prayers for protection and love were not answered and I was convinced that it was because I wasn't worthy of His love or protection either.

Even though my parents had very little to give me that was positive, God gave me a very caring and warm set of grandparents who loved me and expressed that in everyday ways. They became my safety net and a positive example for me to follow as I grew up.

Nevertheless, in my early 20's, I came to the point where the hate inside began to consume me, and I knew I didn't want to pass that onto my young children. Turning to God for help didn't seem to be an option since I didn't think He had answered my earlier prayers. But as I expressed my hopelessness to my grandmother one day, she told me I didn't have to depend on myself to forgive, but that God would give me the ability to forgive that I so sorely needed. That gave me enough hope to start seeking Him again and believe that He would answer my prayer. The ability to forgive my parents and others I asked God for was birthed in me then, but wasn't strong enough to enable me to surmount all the hurt and resentment that had built up over the years. I knew I needed to, but I still didn't know how to.

So, as an adult I was filled with hatred and unforgiveness toward my parents and was unable to really trust anyone, even those who were close to me. I was plagued with severe insomnia for which I had to take the strongest medication available on the market in order to get to sleep at night. To my surprise, what I hated most in my mother, I found myself emulating in my own life by also controlling those who were closest to me. In addition, I suffered from a deep sense of unworthiness and an inability to really connect with God's love in any way, even though I sought it many times.

One day as Pastor Bruce was describing the ministry God had called him into, I realized that this might be exactly what I needed, and God put a peace inside me to pursue it. From there God led me into a few sessions of Transformation Ministry. Although I had been in many counseling sessions as a younger adult, the methods Pastor Bruce used to address the woundedness in my life were very different than what I was used to, and though I was totally unfamiliar with this kind of ministry, it turned out to be just what God wanted.

As a result of Transformation Ministry I have experienced a new level of healing and freedom from bondages that I have never known before, and didn't know was even possible. The consequences of the Lord healing and setting me free are both widespread and deep. I am now totally free from the hatred, bitterness and

unforgiveness that had plagued me all my life toward my parents. In fact, since I have forgiven them and been healed and set free, our relationship has undergone a major change that is still in progress. For the first time in my life I can talk for hours on the phone with my mother. That was not possible before. And for the first time in my life also, my father is now telling me he loves me every time we speak. I had never heard him say the words, “I love you,” to me in all my life until God healed me. I am now sleeping soundly at night without needing any medication at all. God has softened my hard heart, healed my need to control others and given me the ability to not only believe He loves me, but to know it in the depths of my heart and soul. I now experience the presence and love of Jesus Christ for me on a daily basis, something I had never experienced before! Although I did not feel God was there for me as a child growing up, I now realize that in fact He was there protecting and loving me all along, even though I didn’t know it at the time. While God did not protect me from all wounds and pain, He protected me from the worst wounds and the deepest pain – including an attempt to take my life at a young age. He also saved me from two possible future paths I could easily have taken – both of which would have ended in walking away from Him and injuring others in the same ways I was wounded.

I am now able to look back on my childhood without cringing with hurt, anger or pain. And I am now literally able to thank God for the hellish years I went through because those wounds are now healed, and I know He will use what I went through for good – both in my life and in the lives of people I am now able to minister to. I am truly delivered and freed from the hate, hurt and bondages that controlled my life for so many years and kept me living a sub-Christian life. I praise God for His love and His ability to “heal the brokenhearted and set the captives free.” He has done in my life what I never thought was possible – to Him be all the glory.

Testimony of C.J.

Greetings in Christ. I would like to share with you what God has done for me. The Lord Jesus Christ through Strong in Spirit Ministries blessed me in a mighty way. On the day I came for ministry I was healed from many deep inner wounds from decades past and delivered from the torment of many demonic spirits that had attached themselves and made a home in me due to past tragic life experiences and my own sins. Although I became a Christian in 1991, I was completely unaware that these enemies existed in me.

I’ve had a long history of mental depression dating back to my teen years, which increased in strength and intensity over the years. Recently I reached such a depressing low that I was seriously tempted to just end it all and commit suicide. I was tormented in my mind with temptations and suggestions to kill myself either by slashing my wrists or taking an overdose of sleeping pills and other medicines I was on. Nevertheless, by God’s grace and mercy, I did not follow through with either of those plans of the enemy.

Over the years, I came to feel increasingly trapped in a life of depression and sin that kept me in a state of continual hopelessness about things ever getting better. While I would occasionally cry out to the Lord to change me, to heal and deliver me, I had little faith it would ever happen and I always plunged right back into the pits of darkness where I normally lived.

I had gone through my 20’s, 30’s, and now was in my early 40’s, and my life had been very unhappy. I had never married nor had any children. Throughout that time, I only had a couple of dates. This made me very sad and I was filled with self-pity. I felt like I had been given a raw deal in life because of what I was going through, and I wondered why others were happy, married, had children and seemed so successful. These and other tormenting thoughts plagued me year after year.

Because of all this, I lacked self-esteem and became very shy. In my teen years, I began looking to food for comfort. Eventually, I became morbidly obese. The unhealthy state of my physical body contributed to my low self-esteem and shyness. I would look at myself in the mirror and say “yuck,” or I would stick out my tongue at myself in disgust at my image. The enemy told me I was a failure, fat and ugly, a blob, disgusting, a pig, a worthless pile of crap. After having these thoughts, I felt even more depressed and experienced more self-pity. I was also angry and upset with God because of my troubles.

I remember waking up one day and saying out loud, “I loathe my life and I loathe myself.” To loathe is to hate deeply, and I knew the meaning of that word. But I was in bondage and in great despair. But God, who is rich in mercy, started putting a plan into effect to heal and deliver me – here comes the good part!

I started to share some of the horrible things I had been going through with my sister who, along with others, began to pray for me. It was through a small group of women that I was connected with Pastor Bruce Koester and Strong in Spirit Ministries.

In early September I prayed and asked the Lord for an appointment with Him because I knew if I could just have an appointment with Jesus, I would be healed and delivered.

The Lord answered my prayer through this ministry. I was healed and delivered through Jesus' amazing ministry. The process was gentle and loving for me – yet many demons were cast out of me and their former work against me was destroyed. The ministry was a blessing beyond my expectations. Although I had a lot of apprehension beforehand, it was awesome and God just really knocked my socks off! It was the biggest blessing I've ever experienced in my Christian life, a true Divine appointment.

I now have a brand-new, beautiful life! Jesus so totally healed me of depression and delivered me from the prescription drugs I was taking for it and for high blood pressure that I have not needed to take them since the deliverance – and I've not experienced any adverse side effects. That by itself is a miracle – 5 medications I no longer need for conditions I no longer have! In fact, within a few weeks after my 'deliverance day,' my blood pressure has already fallen from 155/88 to 131/73. Isn't God amazing?! I now have great hope and am much more positive than I ever was before!

I have noticed other significant changes in my daily life as well. TV is now so meaningless to me unless I'm watching Christian broadcasting. Before, I used to watch hours every night. Now, I watch very little if any. I used to go to lots of movies to escape the pain I once carried, but I no longer need to do that anymore. I also used to have scary, tormenting nightmares, but those are gone – my sleep is peaceful and calm now! I'm doing very fine, His joy is divine and indescribable, as are all His benefits. He has helped me even at the grocery store with self-control – I no longer have urges or impulses to buy junk food, sweets, candy, ice cream, etc, etc. – this is awesome, and I give Him thanks for the fruit of His Spirit, self-control! Even my dormant prayer life has been restored and is increasing by leaps and bounds!

This is liberty – this is the abundant life Christ spoke about that I'm finally experiencing now – and to think I was just hanging on by a thread for so long!!!

Recently as I left my apartment to head for work singing "the joy of the Lord is my strength," I glanced over at others in their cars and all I saw was stress, blank stares and the "blah's" written on their faces. That sure made me feel for them because everyone needs this love, this joy, this peace, these fruits, this blessedness that I'm finally experiencing!

I have a joy, peace and hope inside that I've never had in my entire life. I feel so good – cleaner, clearer, lighter inside, I'm on cloud 52,861! I'm so excited about life now and for the years ahead of me and what the Lord wants me to do for Him. I'm in such a different place now, flying free in His Spirit, in His joy, His love. Oh, Lord, may this only increase – Your whole Body needs this blessedness!!!

These amazing internal changes have dramatically affected my relationship with a co-worker as well. She and I used to have conflicts and a variety of problems with each other. Not anymore. Now it's such a joy to work in an environment where there's peace and friendship! This has come about not only through the new peace I have inside, but also because within 10 days of my new inner freedom that has bred a new boldness and confidence in me, God allowed me to lead her to the Lord and she happily prayed the sinner's prayer of salvation. Both she and I felt the Loving Presence of Christ when she surrendered her life to the Lord! This is the first person that I have led to the Lord in my Christian life – but not the last! Within a week or so of leading this lady to Christ, I've been able to lead another person to Christ who in turn led two others to Christ as well! I am discipling these ladies now and helping them grow in Christ! I'm *so* excited about opportunities for sharing the Gospel with many others in the future now!

It utterly amazes me that just months ago I was so down, so low, so depressed, without hope, suicidal and tormented. Now, I'm living a blessed life – I have so much joy and laughter each day, I sing His praises in open places and fellowship with the Lord all the time – it's beautiful.

Due to this dramatic turnaround in my life, I wholeheartedly recommend Strong in Spirit Ministries. What happened to me was an answer to many years of desperate cries for healing and deliverance. Pastor Bruce Koester and the ministry team treated me with such care and love. They were very sensitive to my concerns about the process of deliverance, and they have the anointing that "destroys yokes and removes burdens" in this ministry. To God be all the glory for what He has done!

Testimony of Jayne Esther

My name is Jayne Esther and I am an ordained minister of the gospel. Like most of the prophetic Body of Christ at large we have all walked in much revelation of His Word, yet knowing we are not whole, we are simply saved, healed and delivered – yet the vast majority of us are not walking in wholeness as yet. In spite of all our knowledge of the truth, many of us have lost our families, identities and land for the cause of Christ. Yet, we have not been able to enter into our destinies and have not yet seen all the prophetic words given us all these years come to manifestation in our personal lives, even though we have known without a shadow of a doubt these promises have been and are ours.

Through a friend's urging, I invited Pastor Bruce Koester to bring his Strong In Spirit Conference to a gathering of local pastors. As part of his ministry, he does Transformation Ministry which deals with healing broken heartedness and deliverance. These two ministries I found really do compliment each other very well. I went to his web-site at www.stronginspirit.com and read about this, and the rest is history (His-story)!

When I went to the Strong In Spirit Seminar, it was exactly as I knew the Word of God to be, yet Pastor Bruce had a fire in his bones with such passion that it was like nothing I had seen in years and years. It was like 'seeing' a burning bush, so I had to check out this 'burning bush' that resides in him. This message and ministry is a gift to the Body of Christ and this is what we have all been waiting years upon years to get the rest of our heart-healing and deliverance in order to live out our destinies.

After the Strong In Spirit Seminar, I immediately went through my own Transformation Ministry and I literally walked right into my destiny. I was born again 'again,' with all my past knowledge cast in a new light and with all the mixture of the years before having been totally wiped out and buried. Therefore I am like a new creation again in Him – this is a total miracle. Without attempting to diet, I have lost weight and am continuing to do so, plus I am now able to fast for long periods of times while in deep intercession for the nations. God has also washed out my mouth after many years of saying cuss words to express myself.

I am amazed that the Transformation Ministry was done in a very non-invasive way and it wasn't necessary to 'tell each detail of a story' to explain what had happened to me by family, friends and the church that had caused me great pain in the past. I thought I was already free, but found that I hadn't really tasted of the freedom He had waiting for me – and that is really an understatement! Because even though there was no pain that I was aware of in these emotional areas due to previous healings, through this ministry, Jesus met me with a deeper level of 'rooting' out that which was hindering me. (Some of these hindrances consisted of inner vows, judgment calls, soul ties and even sins which I had already dealt with many years ago – yet while this ministry looked the same as others, it was totally different – you have to experience this to understand it).

There are no words that I can say at this time about how God has changed me through the Strong In Spirit Seminar and Transformation Ministry, as I am still walking this new life out – now without the hindrances of the past clouding my vision. All I can really say at this time is *thank you Jesus* for truly raising up Strong In Spirit Ministries to deliver all us leaders, pastors, teachers, etc., so that we can lead the troops under us in the real purity that the Church must have to do the greater works! In my humble opinion, this is that!! Selah.

Testimony of Eunice

I met Pastor Bruce and as we spoke, he shared with me about Transformation Ministry and that it was something everyone needed in life to get free and be healed by the Lord from the sins, snares and problems of life, which is Jesus' ministry according to Isaiah 61:1. That made me think, because all my life as far back as I can remember I have gone through many trials because of witchcraft spells, generational curses and many other afflictions used against me by the enemy. You name it and I have gone through it, from every direction I've been harassed and had my life filled with fear, worry, intimidation, effects of child abuse, etc. – but I have now found that my God is bigger than every trial and temptation! I had been praying for some time for God to give me direction and guidance for someone of His choice who could minister to me and guide me on how to pray more effectively.

Shortly after that, Pastor Bruce and a ministry team led me through Transformation Ministry. I noticed many new changes in my life after that, but also found many things from the 'old life' still trying to hang on and torment me. Through additional ministry I have seen many more wonderful changes in my life! I no longer live in fear, anger or intimidation like I used to. I don't feel sick all the time, unlike those days when I felt sick most

of the time and almost thought that was how life was meant to be. But Jesus has healed the wounds, delivered me from the many afflictions of my life and done wonders in me! One time I was feeling something inside rise up and start choking me so badly that I could hardly breathe. When I called for prayer, before I said why I called, Pastor Bruce told me that he saw a serpent around my neck. We prayed and rebuked the enemy and I felt it unwind and leave me. Another time a spirit was pressing against my lungs so hard that I could not breathe. As we prayed and cursed its mission against me, I felt it move off and leave me. My back and legs had nearly always been so sore that it was hard for me to stand for a long time or bend my back, but since we rebuked the enemy in prayer, I have not had that pain anymore – I am free and I give God all the glory for it!

In an amazing experience with God following this, I was taken for a ‘tour’ in my spirit and felt myself being lifted all the way up into the blue sky above. When I looked down, I saw demons all over the world – dark and filthy crippling things – but I was told that I have dominion over all of them (Luke 10:19) and that encouraged me greatly! I now know that in Christ I am stronger than the demons, so they can no longer harass me – I know who I am in Christ and what He has done for me to set me free and heal my painful past!

Many curses against me have been broken, my body has been healed and God has done many other things as well for me. I now walk with a new boldness I never had before as I have learned to trust in God and all His promises much more strongly. All demons are under our feet and they cannot hurt us like they want to if we stand firm in Christ. I would like to mention one final cause for rejoicing. After God made these changes in my life by setting me free and healing my soul, I went home one time and could not believe that my own family could see the changes in my life! As we discussed an issue, God gave me a newfound courage to differ with my family and stand up for His ways – and everyone listened to me. They actually agreed with what I said, and then spoke with amazement about what had happened to me and how I had really changed because I had never been this bold before. God has made remarkable changes in my life – I walk them, I talk them and I am pressing on aggressively in the Lord's army now like never before!

I would like to close by sharing a dream God gave me that sums this up very well. In the dream He showed me a beautiful big house, newly painted, richly appointed and very well kept. I was amazed at its beauty and in the dream I asked the Lord, “Lord, is this my house?” He said, “No dear, it is *My* house – inside you!” That is what my inner heart and soul now look like to Him since He’s taken out the trash in my heart and ‘remodeled’ the inside of me so thoroughly!

God is truly the Victor – He has fought all my battles and has given me the victory in all of them! He is still on the throne and He can do it for you as well! I pray that my Transformation testimony will bless many people and encourage them to get free and healed inside and experience the abundant life God has given to me! To Him be all the glory for it.