

## A Cord of Three Strands

"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not easily broken."

— Ecclesiastes 4:12

There is power in unity—whether in relationships, faith, or the disciplines we practice as believers. When we combine fasting, praying, and giving, we create a spiritual cord that is not easily broken. I first learned this principle years ago from Jentezen Franklin's teaching, and it came to life for me in a deeply personal way when a dear friend of mine, Genie Gregory, was diagnosed with cancer.

The prognosis was grim, but I believed in a God who is still in the miracle-working business. I began praying fervently for her healing, and the Holy Spirit reminded me of something He had taught me years ago about naming my seed. With that in mind, I decided to sow a financial seed, telling God, "I'm planting this for Genie's healing."

As I put that money in the offering box, I felt the Spirit urging me to take it a step further. I committed to a three-day fast from sunrise to sunset. This was a time of quiet dedication between me and God. I didn't tell Genie about the fast, but on the second day, she called me. Her words left me in awe:

"God told me that you're the friend who will lower me through the roof."

Her statement was a clear reference to the story in Mark 2:1-12, where friends lowered a paralyzed man through a roof to reach Jesus. It confirmed to me that I was standing in the gap for her, interceding with every fiber of my being.

Throughout those three days, I guarded my heart and mind against doubt. I trusted that God was hearing my prayers and honoring my fast and offering. Shortly after the fast ended, I received the phone call I had been waiting for—Genie was healed. She has been cancer-free ever since.

This experience taught me the power of combining prayer, fasting, and giving. When we weave these disciplines together, we form a spiritual cord that can withstand even the fiercest of storms. We serve a miracle-working, prayer-answering God, and He is still on the throne.

If you are facing a battle today, remember this: Stand firm in faith. Pray, fast, and give. God is faithful, and He moves in response to the faith of His children.

- Sharry Lamberger, TLC Team Lead.