

THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH

**7 STEPS OF HOW I STAYED POSITIVE
THROUGH CANCER TREATMENTS**

DIANA MARIE WINKLER

Scripture passages taken from the New American Bible
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“For I am the Lord, your God,
who grasp your right hand;
It is I who say to you, ‘Fear not,
I will help you.’”

Isaiah 41:13

**“LET GOD’S PROMISES SHINE ON
YOUR PROBLEMS.”
CORRIE TEN BOOM**

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INTRODUCTION

When I listened to my family doctor tell me that the extra tests I had taken after my annual mammogram showed that I had Ductal Carcinoma in Situ, Stage One breast cancer in my left breast words that immediately came to mind were, “I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me.” I knew the words were from the Bible, but I wasn’t sure where it was in the Bible or even if I was quoting it correctly. Later I would be thankful that I remembered the words and would be repeating them over and over again. After listening and digesting what I was being told I was amazed that I had no fear! I was directed to make an appointment with a cancer surgeon. Before calling to make an appointment, I did what many do, I consulted with “Dr. Google”! I’m a very visual person and I knew I would be able to see pictures of what was told to me. I have my set of doctors that I rely on for my medical needs and the internet is just used for general information. I met with the cancer surgeon who explained I would have a lumpectomy, not a mastectomy. I then met with the doctor who would be my oncologist and was

given information about chemotherapy. After chemotherapy I would need radiation with another doctor.

I then decided that I needed a game plan to not only tackle this intrusion, but a way to stay positive. As the steps started forming in my mind I wrote them down to draw from them. Years earlier I had walked the cancer journey with my husband. I had an idea of the “ups” and “downs”. I knew I would need something to grab hold of to get me through each leg of the journey.

As I mentioned I had no fear, it was like a calmness came over me. Sounds crazy doesn't it after being told you have cancer? I believe it was because through the years the Lord has proven Himself over and over again of His love, loyalty and promises. I knew He was going to walk with me at each part of this journey. The vision I had was of Him and me locking arms walking down a path. The path was not without its obstacles, but I knew my walking Companion had the path laid out already and was clearing the way. I knew I was in safe hands.