

SMALL GROUP

by David Dudley, *Small Group Leader*

Connecting to God, Connecting to Others, and Connecting to the World define Crossroads Fellowship's vision. Soon after beginning to attend, I realized this was more than a slogan. Instead, it simply explained the path to complete fulfillment in my Christian walk. How could I make these connections in such a large church? For me, the answer came in the form of a small group. Small group gave me a place to grow in my faith, helped me develop relationships and gave me a safe place to begin reaching out to the world.

A small group setting is the perfect place to explore God's word. Even as a leader, I feel free to ask any question. The members feed on the conversation and contribute in their own way. This gives a better understanding of how God's word applies to everyday life.

Small group is a comfortable place to develop relationships through prayer and social activities. Prayer increases intimacy with God and with each other. Sharing prayer requests and praises draws each person closer to one another. To develop prayer, our group signed up for a prayer room commitment. We get the chance to connect with each other as we pour our hearts out to God. Small group is not only about prayer and Bible study. During our parties, and even during our meetings, we laugh and have fun together. Nothing builds relationships better than a good meal and a game of horseshoes.

Connecting to the world is an important part of our small group. Two members are involved with Celebrate Recovery, while two others are involved at the Pregnancy Life Care Center (PLCC). As a group, we pray specifically for these ministries. We have also raised money through a yard sale for PLCC and donated time doing tasks such as painting.

My small group challenges me to grow, supports me in good and bad times and encourages me to participate in other peoples lives. For me, small group makes the three connects come to life.