

**From Reluctance to Willingness**  
**February 2009**

That was me. Until a couple years ago I was reluctant to participate in any small group, there was no anonymity in a small group and someone might want me to speak or heaven forbid even ask me to lead something. Then I felt it, the desire to connect on a deeper level. We started attending a weekly home group, I started attending the monthly Men's group and twice monthly Men's breakfast when able. Robbie started attending the Women's group when able and has done a couple of the guided studies. I have to tell you that they have all been a huge blessing to Robbie and me. No one asks you to go in deeper than you are comfortable with and the spiritual payback far exceeds any personal investment. I feel strongly enough about how it has affected us that I wanted to encourage everyone to get as involved as you can. Often times you are the recipient of the blessing, sometimes you are the provider of the word or hug that blesses another; regardless it is awesome to feel the love of our God in a small group!

If you are not involved because of the time, day, or venue of the small groups available, I would encourage you to jot down your suggestions and drop them in the offering box. I guarantee that all suggestions will be looked at and seriously considered. Please do not go spiritually unfulfilled because a group does not meet at the right time or place or cover what you currently feel a need in. We are the body; we need to take care of each other to be effective witnesses for our Lord and Savior. Again I say that small groups are a great blessing! I pray that each of you will continue to feel God's blessings and encourage you to be involved and give suggestions. We are a family and I thank God for the family He is building!

You're Brother in Christ,  
Terry Gable