

Simple Church - Bindu's Response - by John White

A couple of years ago I had the opportunity to talk to **Bindu Choudrie**. I was excited to have the opportunity because Bindu and her husband, Victor, had been responsible for planting several thousand house churches in northern India. In fact, Bindu told me that they (and those they had trained) were planting about 100 new churches a month at that time. I very much wanted to see God do a similar kind of thing in my country.

One of my first questions to Bindu was about **leadership**. This had always been the bottleneck. Even though starting a house church was much simpler than starting a traditional church, many people still felt they weren't ready. In some cases, they had been Christians for decades but they still felt that they didn't know enough or they needed more training. They had heard a thousand sermons and attended scores of seminars but still somehow they just "weren't ready".

So, I asked Bindu, "**Who do you get to lead all of these new house churches?** Where do you get these hundreds of leaders?" Her response floored me. I've been thinking about it ever since.

"Oh, we believe that if you love Jesus and can read (as in, read the Bible), you can lead a house church."

Simple. Duh.

In that moment, my paradigm of leadership underwent a massive shift. I saw that one of the greatest obstacles to the "spontaneous expansion of the church" in the U.S. has been **complexity**. Our obsession with knowledge and training has convinced the average Christian that they could never be qualified to start/lead a church in their home.

Maybe it isn't supposed to be that difficult.

Maybe the best definition of church is "where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." (Mt. 18:20)

Maybe all that is necessary to start/lead a church is that you love Jesus. And listen to Him. And let Him bring the agenda. And let Him do all the "heavy lifting".

Maybe we could find a way to talk about starting/leading a house church that causes the average Christian to say, "I could do that."

Maybe we really could start a million new churches in the United States in this decade.

Simple Church.

Every believer a church planter.
Every home a church.
Every church building a training center.

John White leads a home church network in Denver Colorado. You can understand more of his network by clicking on our Simple Church Network and then going to John White.