

Simple Church—A New Training Ground for 21st-century Missionaries



ALLEN POBLETE

Simple Church participants gather each Sabbath for brunch, fellowship, worship, and lunch. Having completed Simple Church training, two house church planting teams, consisting of four adults per team, will multiply into new homes and open doors to reach more unchurched people.

Thaylia, 12, was baptized on January 24, 2009. Her story actually began a year ago when Thaylia and her three siblings were living in a foster home.

Benoit and Michelle, the foster parents, wanted to adopt these four children who were placed in their care. Michelle,

however, felt impressed that she was not to adopt the children, but lead the entire family — including the children's biological parents — to Jesus.

These modern day missionaries invited the parents, Shawn and Neva, to join their family in worship on Sabbaths in a home

church environment called Simple Church¹. Neva and Shawn's lives were changed, and their children were returned to them. After they joined the church in baptism, they were able to lead their daughter, Thaylia, to the Lord.

Shawn and Neva are now in training to become Simple Church planters. They have already witnessed to their family, resulting in four of their family members and friends attending Simple Church each week.

The first missionaries in this story, Michelle and Benoit, have completed their training for church planting and are in the process of starting a home church. They have a new set of foster children, and Rachel*, the children's

mother, is now attending Simple Church and preparing for baptism.

From the first house church established on June 7, 2008, there are now two additional churches being planted. The average combined attendance on Sabbath morning is 60 people, with approximately 36 percent of adults being unchurched. Church planting teams lead the way as 21st-century missionaries in each Simple Church, witnessing to the unchurched in their families and communities.

For more information on starting a Simple Church in your home, visit www.SimpleChurchInfo.com

—BY MILTON ADAMS

¹ Martin Butler and Gladys Neigel, "Simple Church—Getting Back to Basics," *Adventist Review*, December 11, 2008, page 26.

*Pseudonym



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Shawn, Neva, and Thaylia were recently baptized.



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