

## **Death Valley!**



**On one mountain, we have learned to enjoy institutional church and the traditions associated with it. We enjoy:**

**great oratory  
stirring music  
extensive programs**

**On a distant mountain, God shows us Simple Church.**

**family vs. organization  
participation vs. observation  
common man vs. paid professional  
the home vs. the temple**

**We are made to know this is where He is taking His church. The problem is death valley separates the two mountains. In death valley we must die to the great speaker who feeds us (babies are fed - adults share meals together), we must die to being entertained by the great worship team (and learn to worship with the 5 year old leading "Jesus loves me"), we must die to the endless programs (knowing that programs fill the void of our inability to hear God and allow Him to be the Master of Ceremonies). As we begin the journey from one mountain to the other we must cross death valley. The mountain we aim for is a promise and not fully realized. Some find it easier to turn back to what we have experienced and known. Israel looked back and longed for the "leeks and onions" of Egypt because their destination was only a land of "promise" and not fully formed in their lives. This is a journey of courage!**