

## You & Your Household

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by Wayne Goff

Have you ever observed in the book of Acts that when a man was offered the Gospel for salvation that his “*household*” was sometimes included? I think that says something about those converts of the first century.

When God provided salvation to the first Gentiles, He sent an angel to the house of [Cornelius](#) to command him to send for Peter who would “*tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved*” (Acts 11:14). Cornelius already was “*a devout man... who feared God with all his household...*” (Acts 10:2).

The [Philippian jailer](#) was told to “*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household*” (Acts 16:31). Verse 34 says that he and all his household believed in God!

In the same city, [Lydia](#), a seller of purple from Thyatira, heard the gospel from the apostle Paul. “*And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, ‘If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.’ So she persuaded us*” (Acts 16:15).

This is not said of *every person* who obeyed the gospel, and we recognize that salvation is on a *personal* basis. But it speaks volumes about these individuals who had such a tremendous influence on those around them that their entire household obeyed the gospel!

God chose [Abraham](#) to be the father of the faithful because “*... I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him*” (Genesis 18:19, KJV). Abraham was the spiritual leader of his family!

When Joshua, the spiritual and national leader of Israel after Moses’ death, spoke to Israel at the end of his tenure, he reminded them of their responsibility to serve the Lord. Obviously some of them were wavering in their commitment. So he told them to choose one way or the other (Joshua 24:14-15). He concluded his remarks by saying, “*...But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*” **Who do you serve?**

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