

## HOUSEHOLD CONVERSION

**Request:** Would you explain what is meant by “you shall be saved, you and your household” quoted from Acts 16:31?

We will begin by examining our lesson passage by the following six homiletical points.

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|------------------------|------------|------------------------|
| • City ordinance       | (16:20-21) | religious prejudice    |
| • Civil injustice      | (16:22-24) | racial prejudice       |
| • Cells opened         | (16:25-30) | rare earthquake        |
| • Conversion of jailer | (16:31-34) | radically changed life |
| • Citizenship issue    | (16:35-39) | Roman evangelist       |
| • Community church     | (16:40)    | residence of Lydia     |

**This lesson will study FIVE aspects of what Luke meant by Household Conversion in the Book of Acts.**

**1. While at Troas, Paul received a vision of the Man of Macedonia invitation to bring the gospel to the West (Acts 16:8-10). Who was the Man of Macedonia?**

Paul understood this invitation as a divine call to take the gospel westward to Europe. Paul was directed to take it to the chief city of Macedonia, Philippi (16:11-12).

Paul understood this invitation as an open door of evangelism (2 Cor.2:12-13; Col.4:2-6).

**2. When Paul arrived at Philippi, there was no synagogue because of a city ordinance against the religion of the Jews decreed by Emperor Claudius (Acts 16:20-21, 37-39; 18:2).**

Normally, the Jewish synagogue was Paul’s first choice to check out positive volition towards God consciousness and gospel hearing.

Since there was no synagogue, Paul searched for any pockets of PV outside the city. This led him to a group of Jewish women worshippers meeting for prayer outside the city (16:13-15). These women became the first European converts to Christianity. **But what about the Man of Macedonia?**

One of these women converts was named Lydia. This is important to our lesson because her household was converted to Christianity (Acts 16:10-15).

The account of her salvation is interesting –“The Lord opened (dianoigo / a.a.ind) her heart to respond to Paul’s message. ‘If you consider me a believer in the Lord’ she said, come and stay at my house.’ And she persuaded us.” (16:15)

**3. During one of Paul’s trips to the place of prayer outside the city, he healed a woman of demon possession against the city ordinance that resulted in he and Silas being jailed (Acts 16:16-24).**

Why were Paul and Silas jailed?

- Human logic \_\_\_\_\_
- Divine will \_\_\_\_\_

- How important is it to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor.5:7)?
- Why were Paul and Silas in Macedonia and Philippi (Acts 16:9-10)?
- Have we seen the Man of Macedonia yet?
- Who has Paul and Silas preached the gospel to in Philippi?

**4. Paul and Silas didn't lose their focus on their mission while in jail (Acts 16:25-28; Phil.1:29).**

- How did Paul and Silas get into the prison ministry?
- How did they spend their time in jail? (read James 5:13)
- Did they have a ministry to the prisoners? (After reading Acts 16:26-28, what clue do we have that they had a ministry to the other prisoners.)

Now we are about to meet the Man of Macedonia and our lesson Household Conversion (Acts 16:29-32)

- Meet the Man of Macedonia, THE PHILIPPIAN JAILER – “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

**“They replied, ‘believe (pisteuo / a.a.impv) [command] in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved – you and your household. Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.’”**

(Gospel - 1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16)

**5. The Philippian jailer went from crisis suicide to grace salvation to become the first male convert of Europe and the Man of Macedonia in the vision that resulted in evangelism of Europe and later America.**

We would all agree that a big change occurred in the life of the Philippian jailer. Once he received Christ, he received Christians (16:33-34). He went from flogging Christians to fellowshiping with them. What has happened to this Man of Macedonia is called salvation!

How was his household converted to Christianity? “Then they spoke the word of the Lord (gospel) to him and TO ALL THE OTHERS OF HIS HOUSE.” (16:33)

How important is it to have a Christian disciple doing the work of ambassadorship in a family?  
(2 Cor.5:18-21; 1 Cor.7:12-16; Acts 10-11; 18:7-11; Luke 19:1-10)

“Jesus said to him (Zaccheus), ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.’” (Luke 19:9-10)

“So then, he (Abraham) is also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.” (Rom.4:12)