

SALVATION IN HOUSEHOLDS BEGINS

ACTS 16:31-34

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: The Bible does not teach household salvation. It does teach that the whole family can be saved if each member believes.

WITH HUMILITY. The jailor's act of trembling, falling on his knees and asking "What must I do?" and the answer he was given was an example to his family on how to be saved. His family was saved not by proxy of family head, or marriage, but by each individual's faith. (Acts 16:31-34, fn 16:30, 31, Acts 18:8, Acts 11:14, 15, John 1:12, 13, I Peter 3:1, 2, fn 3:1-7, Romans 10:9-13, fn 10:8-12) *How would you explain God's plan of salvation to your family?*

WITH PARENTAL INFLUENCE. When children are old enough to make choices for themselves, their adoration and respect for their Christian parents and their godly lives will hopefully encourage them to trust Christ for their own salvation. (Acts 16:34, 16:31-34, Acts 16:15, fn 16:15, II Timothy 3:14, 15, fn 3:15, Ephesians 6:1-4, fn 6:1-4, Proverbs 22:6, Proverbs 17:6) *How could you influence your children or grandchildren to believe in Christ?*

WITH PRAYER. Your prayers are powerful and effective. It is God's will for "all to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth." He promises that if we pray according to His will, He hears and we have what we have asked of Him. (James 5:16, fn 5:16-18, II Peter 3:9, I Timothy 2:1-4, I John 5:13-15) *Using these Scriptures, how would you pray for a lost member of your family?*

The Bible was not written for our information only but for our transformation. *How will these verses change you in your walk with God and others, including your spouse? (Matthew 5:23,24, I Peter 3:7)*

Pray for one another's needs.

Who in your group needs your encouragement by phone or personal attention?