

Houeshold Conversion: Case Studies in Acts

Acts 11.13-14: *Cornelius*

¹³ And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter; ¹⁴ Who shall tell thee words, whereby **thou and all thy house shall be saved.**

Acts 16.14-15: *Lydia*

¹⁴ And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard [us]: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. ¹⁵ And when **she was baptized, and her household**, she besought [us], saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide [there]. And she constrained us.

Acts 16.31-34: *The Philippian Jailer*

³¹ And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and **thou shalt be saved, and thy house.** ³² And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed [their] stripes; and **was baptized, he and all his**, straightway. ³⁴ And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

Acts 16.8: *Crispus*

⁸ And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, **believed on the Lord with all his house**; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

Discussion Questions

- Can a person be saved as a result of a group decision?
- Are corporate conversions better than individual conversions, or vice versa?
- Why don't group conversions occur more often in America?
- Should we try to lead whole groups--families, for example--to Christ at the same time?

OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

- I. The Witness in Jerusalem (1.1-8.1a)
 - A. Jesus' Ascension (1.6-11)
 - B. Selection of a Twelfth Apostle (1.15-26)
 - C. Pentecost: The Coming of the Holy Spirit (2.1-41)
 - D. Jewish Opposition to the Church (4.1-31; 5.17-42)
 - E. Selection of Seven Deacons (6.1-7)
 - F. Martyrdom of Stephen (6.8-8.1a)
- II. The Witness in Judea and Samaria (8.1b-9.35)
 - A. Evangelism in Samaria (8.4-25)
 - B. Conversion of Ethiopian Eunuch (8.26-39)
 - C. Conversion of Saul (9.1-19)
- III. The Witness to the Ends of the Earth (9.36-28.31)
 - A. Conversion of Cornelius (10.1-11.18)
 - B. Expansion to Antioch (11.19-26)
 - C. Commissioning of Barnabas and Saul to Missionary Work (13.1-3)
 - D. Paul's First Missionary Journey (13.4-14.28)
 - E. Jerusalem Council (15.1-29)
 - F. Paul's Second Missionary Journey (15.36-18.22)
 - G. Paul's Third Missionary Journey (18.23-21.16)
 - H. Paul's Arrest in Jerusalem (21.27-23.31)
 - I. Paul's Imprisonment in Caesarea (23.32-26.32)
 - J. Paul's Journey to Rome (27.1-28.15)
 - K. Paul's Imprisonment in Rome (28.16-31)