

## (D2: The Home)

# A Biblical Survey of the Household and Family

### I. Introduction

Isa 54:5, 6; 61:10; 62:5; Ps 103:13; Mk 1:11; Mt 26:39; 1 Jn 3:1; Heb 12:7; Mt 12:50; 2 Co 11:2; Rev 19:7; 1 Ti 5:1-2; Phm 1:7

### II. Various Kinds of Households in God's Words

- Marriage (Adam and Eve), Ge 1-2.
- The nuclear family (Isaac, Rebekah, Esau, Jacob), Ge 25:21-26.
- Unloved wives (Leah), Ge 29:31-33.
- Extended family (Joseph), Ge 45:9-11; Ac 7:14.
- Mother-in-law and daughter-in-law (Naomi and Ruth), Ru 1-2.
- Remarriage, intercultural marriage (Boaz and Ruth), Ru 2-4.
- Adoption (Mordecai and Esther), Est 2:5-7.
- Infertility (Zacharias and Elizabeth), Lk 1:5-7.
- Widows (Ana), Lk 2:36.
- Multigenerational (Peter's mother-in-law in his home), Lk 4:38-39.
- Adult siblings (Martha, Mary, Lazarus), Lk 10:38-42; Jn 11:1-3, 19.
- Single woman as head of her household (probably the case for Lydia), Ac 16:14-15, 40.
- One spouse a believer, one spouse not (probably the case for Timothy's parents), Ac 16:1-3; 2 Ti 1:5; 3:14-15; see also 1 Co 7:12-14.
- Single men and women with unique opportunities for undistracted devotion to the Lord (Tabitha and Phoebe may be examples of this), 1 Co 7:8, 32-35; Ac 9:36-41; Ro 16:1-2.

### III. A Biblical Survey of the Household and Family

As we walk through God's Word, we will see:

- God's design and purposes for the household/family
- The household's vulnerability to sin
- Responsibilities and opportunities related to the household/family
- The importance of honoring God above the household/family

From the very beginning, God is the One who created the family, defined the family, and gave purpose to the family.

- **Ge 1-2** Adam and Eve, marriage, fill the earth, different roles
  
- **Ge 3** The Fall
  
- **Ge 4** Cain and Abel, children, murder
  
- **Gn 5** History recorded through generations of a family

- **Ge 6-9** Noah and family - rescued from flood judgment
- **Ge 10-11** After Babel, people dispersed by families
- **Ge 12** God's covenant with Abram (Abraham)
- **Ge 18** Abraham teaches his children and household
- **Ge 12 and 20, Gen 16** The harm of Abraham's sin to his household
- **Ge 15:6** Abraham's faith
- **Ge 22** Abraham submits even his love for his son to God's command

- **Ge 39-50** Jacob's family, Joseph
- **Ex 20; Lev 25; Dt 6, 25** The household in the Mosaic covenant
- **Dt 6:4-7** The centrality of God's Word in the home
- **Dt 7:3-4** The danger of intermarrying with idolatrous foreigners
- **Dt 8:10-14** The danger of forgetting God in the home
- **1 Sa 2** Eli honored his sons above God
- **1 Sa 1-2** Hannah sought the Lord in the midst of heartache in her home

- **1 Sa 25** Abigail preserved her household through faith-filled humility and wisdom
  
- **2 Ki 5** A captive Israelite slave girl pointed her master to the one true God
  
- **2 Chr 22:10-12 (1 Ki 16; 1 Ki 21:25; 2 Ki 8)** Jezebel, Athaliah, and Jehoshabeath
  
- **Ps 145:4; 78:4-8 (also 22:30; 48:13; 71:18; 102:18)** Generational faithfulness
  
- **Proverbs (esp Pr 1-7; 3:12; 5:18; 6:29; 7:19; 10:1; 12:4; 17:25; 18:22; 19:13-14, 26; 20:20; 22:6, 15; 23:15, 24-26; 31:1, 10-31)**  
Parental instruction for children in the fear of the Lord, wisdom for child training, godly husbands and wives

- **Mt 10:34-38** Family subordinate to following Christ
  - **1 Co 7:12-14** Influence of a believer on unbelievers in the household
  - **Mt 12:50** Family identity is under identity in Christ
  - **Lk 8:26-39** Man sent to his house to tell what Jesus did for him
- **Ac 10, 11 (esp 10:1-2, 22, 24, 33, 43-44; 11:1)** Cornelius brings his relatives together to hear the gospel
- **Ep 5:22-24** Marriage roles
- **Ep 6:1-4** Children, parents
- **Mk 7:9-13; Jn 19:26-27; 1 Ti 5:4** Responsibilities of adult children

- **Ti 2:3-5** A woman's faithfulness in her home influences others' perception of God's Word
- **1 Ti 3:2-5** Faithfulness in the home is a qualification for elder leadership
- **Ti 1:10-11** Influences that can upset the household
- **2 Ti 3:6-7** Influences that enter households and captivate weak women
- **Ac 2:46** Believers shared meals in their homes
- **Ac 5:42** The gospel was proclaimed from house to house
- **Ac 12:12** Believers met for prayer in John Mark's mother's home when Peter was in prison
- **Ac 16:15, 40** Lydia welcomed Paul and Silas into her home
- **1 Co 16:15** Stephanas' household devoted themselves to ministry to the saints
- **Ro 16:3-5; 1 Co 16:19; Phm 1:2** Households hosted churches
- **Phm 1:22** Households gave lodging to gospel ministers

## IV. Implications

"Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life." Proverbs 4:23

**WELLSPRING PURPOSE:** To equip and encourage the women of Grace Bible Church to shepherd their hearts toward Jesus Christ with the word of God so that they live gospel-transformed lives, thus strengthening the church in its gospel purpose.

**Discipline one – the heart:** The faithful woman of God shepherds her heart worshipfully toward God through the Word of God, and in particular the gospel.

**Discipline two – the home:** The faithful woman of God is concerned for those in her home and ministers to them with her heart fixed on God and His Word.

**Discipline three – ministry:** With a heart fixed on God and keeping her God-given ministry within her home a priority, the faithful woman of God steps into the church and every part of life to shepherd others toward God and the gospel.