

# *The Household Through God's Eyes*

**The Mission of this Service . . . and this Sermon:**

*To recognize and reinforce the household as the foundational unit through which God transforms our world—and the Church as a "Household of households."*

## **The Household in the Old Testament**

*Bayith* = "household, family, those belonging to the same household" (BDB)

### **Genesis 2:18-24**

A household starts with one man and one woman—Children are not required.

### **Genesis 18:17-19**

The household includes Everyone associated with that house.

### **Joshua 24:15**

The Head of the Household is responsible for the spiritual leadership of the household.

### **Psalm 68:5-6**

Each household is to be Inclusive toward those who are alone.

## The Household in the New Testament

*Oikos* = "the inmates of a house, all the persons forming one family, a household; the family of God, of the Christian Church, of the church of the Old and New Testaments" (Thayer's Greek Definitions)

### Acts 16:31-34

God intended Salvation to move through entire households, not merely individuals.

### Acts 16:14-15

The Head of the Household may be a Single adult.

### Ephesians 2:19-22

The Church is to be a "Household of households."

Whenever the household is weakened, then God's Household is Weakened.

Whenever the household isolates itself, then both the household and God's Household are Limited.

### What does this mean?

- We will seek to strengthen marriages.
- We will embrace *each* household, not just the nuclear family.
- We will both encourage and challenge the Head of the Household to take the spiritual leadership of the home.
- We will seek to enfold the solitary into our households.
- We will believe for the salvation and discipleship of entire households.
- We will promote the Church as a "Household of households."

### Follow-up Questions for your Household Worship Time:

- 1) How would you summarize God's view of the household?
- 2) Why can we call the Church a "Household of households"?
- 3) Which principle about the household was the most impacting for you? Why?
- 4) What can we change in our household to make it more like God intends?