

# Luke 9:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart.

## Analysis

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**Whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide** (μείνατε, meinate)—Jesus commands stability, not house-hopping for better accommodations. The aorist imperative emphasizes decisive action: pick one household and stay there. This instruction counters the temptation to upgrade lodging based on hospitality quality or social advantage.

**Thence depart** (ἐξέρχεσθε, exerchesthe)—When leaving the town, depart from that same house. This creates accountability and prevents the appearance of greed or favoritism. The disciples' conduct must not discredit their message. Paul later echoed this principle, supporting himself to avoid burdening new converts (1 Thessalonians 2:9). The missionary's credibility depends on contentment and gratitude, not social climbing.

## Historical Context

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In first-century Palestine, hospitality was sacred duty, but itinerant teachers were common and could exploit generosity. Cynics and wandering philosophers sometimes moved between homes seeking better meals or patronage. Jesus's instruction protected both the disciples' integrity and their hosts from being used. The Twelve were traveling light (verse 3) and dependent on local support during their preaching mission through Galilee.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does contentment with simple provision protect the credibility of your Christian witness?
2. In what ways might seeking social or material advantage undermine the gospel message you share?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	εἰς	ἣν	ἂν	οἰκίαν	εἰσέλθῃτε	ἐκεῖ	μένετε	καὶ
And	into	whatsoever	G302	house	ye enter	there	abide	And
G2532	G1519	G3739		G3614	G1525	G1563	G3306	G2532

ἐκεῖθεν	ἐξέρχεσθε
thence	depart
G1564	G1831

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 10:11** (Parallel theme): And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence.

**Mark 6:10** (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, In what place soever ye enter into an house, there abide till ye depart from that place.