Household religion is a theme emerging in recent studies of ancient religions. Prior research has relied heavily on textual sources, which tend to be biased towards elite households, both royal and divine. The archaeology of ritual practices of common people evident in their houses and family tombs increases our understanding. This research on Tell en-Nasbeh highlights household religion through a direct, contextual presentation of ritual artifacts from an Israelite village. Nasbeh’s ritual objects have never been studied in relation to each other or to utilitarian artifacts from the same contexts. This paper will present a case study of ritual objects from an Iron Age II compound made up of five pillared houses. A gendered approach to ritual at the site will add to our understanding of religious culture of women, men, families, and households in ancient Israel.

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