

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil: A Missionary Resource

Syllabus (overview) for all classes Followed by Class Outlines for each class

Class	Topic	Supporting Activities and Applications
1	Intro - Missionary Work and Family History Work: One Great Work	Do before class: - Find or create your 4-generation pedigree chart - Create your Familysearch account, if needed - Download the FamilySearch Tree app on your device Homework: - Practice “Guided Help” (light bulb) on FamilySearch 3 times - Practice the “Instant access” family history experience with at least one person - Add your four generations to the Family Tree Links we used in class: - Elder Bednar - Mission President Seminar 2013 - How to Create a FamilySearch Account - Pedigree Chart - My Family Booklet - The Family History Guide (Note: The Family History Guide can’t be accessed on missionary devices, but can be referenced by them, and used by others.) Resources to learn more: - The Family History Guide: FamilySearch – Family Tree – Complete Goal 7 – Add Ancestors, with exercises
2	Memories	Do before class: - Upload the FamilySearch Memories App to your device Homework: - Practice uploading at least 3 photos using the Memories app - Record and upload your testimony using the Memories app Links we used in class: - Promised Blessings of Family History - Memories App Resources to learn more: - Elder Bednar: The Hearts of The Children Shall Turn - The Family History Guide: Project 2, Goal 6: Photos - The Family History Guide: Project 2, Goal 10: Audio Files - To explore more options, try tagging and organizing - Who Can See My Living Relatives? - The Person Page Memories Tab - How Do I Share Memories With Family and Friends?

		- Interview family members and audio record them, audio icon under a photo.
3	Finding Connections	Do before class: - Upload the FamilySearch Memories App to your device Homework: - Help someone find a story and share it with you - Help someone discover something new using the timeline OR show them your ancestor's timeline. Links we used in class: - Promised Blessings of Family History Resources to learn more: - Build testimony by finding early missionaries in your Family Tree. - 10 Ways to Discover, Gather, and Share Ancestor Stories - From THFG: FamilySearch Memories - If you are not able to locate ancestor stories - share Your own personal stories and stories that inspire them. Some examples are found here, as well as in this article - More inspiring Stories: How Rare A Possession, Pioneer Trek Stories, Pioneer Stories of Faith - All the Stories (3rd party site)
4	Exploring Countries	Do before class: none Homework: - Introduce someone in your family to the FamilySearch fan chart "birth countries" option. Explore with them. - Choose an ancestor from a different country and learn more about that country. Links we used in class: - Pedigree Chart - My Family Booklet - "Where am I from" Discovery experience Resources to learn more: - Look up a country in the FamilySearch wiki - Use Google Earth to explore an ancestor's geography - Explore the "Countries" section on The Family History Guide - Take a virtual tour in the FamilySearch blog - Explore your cultural heritage with FamilySearch Country Pages - Country Flags of The World - World's Largest Countries, Smallest Countries, Most Populous
5	The Gift of Indexing	Do before class: none Homework: - Take the FamilySearch Indexing "Guided Tour" - Index at least one batch, either in English or in your mission language - Extra blessings: Introduce one person to Indexing

		Links we used in class: - Hear Him President Nelson April General Conference 2020 - FamilySearch Indexing Resources to learn more: - FamilySearch Indexing: How it Works Video, Indexing is Vital - FamilySearch Handwriting Helps - Indexing Project 5 at The Family History Guide, with instruction, videos & exercises - Early American Handwriting Game - Editing Dates and Places on Indexed Records
6	Sources	Do before class: none Homework: - Examine at least 3 Record Hints; attach if they match Links we used/referenced in class: - Choosing the Right Tool: Family Tree Web or Mobile Webinar - Family History Scavenger Hunt (for younger kids) - More extensive Scavenger Hunt Resources to learn more: • The Family History Guide: Goal 9 - Record Hints, Attach Sources • The Family History Guide: Goal 8 - Adding Sources • How to Add Sources • Attaching Records Using Record Hints • RecordSeek for Recording Sources in Family Tree • Choosing the Right Tool: Family Tree Web or Mobile Webinar • How to fix incorrect record links • Stories about finding family members from records/sources
7	The Temple	Do before class: none Homework: - Explore beta.familysearch.org - Reserve at least one name for the temple Links we used in class: - Video: I Want to Enter the Temple Resources to learn more: - FS - How to Request Ordinances for ancestor born in the last 110 years - The Family History Guide - Temple Opportunities - Harvesting Souls through Family History & Temple Work - Elder Bednar: Missionary, Family History and Temple Work - Pres. Eyring: Gathering the Family of God

8	Working As A Team	Do before class: Think of a time when someone received help with temple and family history work from either side of the veil. Homework: - Review Elder Bednar's address to Mission Presidents. Make notes on ways you can use what you have learned - Complete one goal on The Family History Guide Links we used in class: - FamilySearch Help Center Resources to learn more: - Open the Heavens through...Family History by President Nelson - Roots and Branches by Elder Cook - How Angels Can Help Us More in Our Lives by Wendy Nelson - Organizing Temple and Family History Service at the Ward Level, by Elder Renlund - RootsTech 2017 Session with President Nelson - Come, Follow Me Companion: The Savior Opened Missionary Work
9	Family History Activities	Do before class: none Homework: - Explore the 4 "Activities" sites and complete one activity. - Pick 3 activities you could use with investigators – play them with your family. Links we used in class: - Pres. Nelson invitation to make family history work more a part of life - The Family History Guide Activities Overview Video See all the activities in: - FamilySearch Discovery, - The Family History Guide Activities for * Families *Individuals *youth, and *children (see Activity Index), - Come, Follow Me Companion (correlated family history activities for each week), and - BYU Family History Technology Lab Resources to learn more: - Ward Temple and Family History 21-Day Challenge - Five-minute Activities for Latter-day Saints - FamilySearch In-home Activities - Activity: My Ancestors' Temples - Surname Search — FamilySearch.org learn ways to use this idea with those you contact (see 44.5) An Evening with Elder and Sister Bednar
10	Preach My Gospel	Do before class: (helpful, not essential - come anyway!) Homework: - Start your own collection of stories, organized by PMG principle - Tell an ancestral story, and make it consumable! Links we used in class:

		- The Shield of Faith, by Boyd K. Packer - Elder Bednar: Missionary, Family History and Temple Work - All the Stories website - 10 Ways to Discover Ancestor Stories - Scripture and story suggestions to illustrate principles in PMG Chapter 3 - Preach My Gospel, Chapter 3 - Hope of Israel, by President Russell M. Nelson Resources to learn more: - Ideas and Help for Using Social Media - “The New Language of Family History” - Record your stories on FamilySearch - Add Audio to Pictures - Continually partake of the promises - Family History and Temple Work: Sealing and Healing by Elder Dale G. Renlund - Inspiring Stories: How Rare A Possession, Pioneer Trek Stories, Pioneer Stories of Faith - See also: Discover Pioneer Relatives, Women of Faith, Relatives in Nauvoo, and Missionary Database
--	--	--

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #1 - Building the Foundation

Melanie

Family History Skill	Application for Missionaries (PMG)	In-class Exercise or Activity	After-class Assignment	Notes
“Spirit of Elijah” is the Holy Ghost	We want to find many ways they can invite the Spirit into their lives	Video : I Couldn’t explain the feeling	Identify at least once when a family experience has been a spiritual experience. Share that story with someone, watching for the accompanying witness from the Holy Ghost.	Resource: Elder Bednar - Missionary, Family History, and Temple Work
Introduce TFHG - We’re going to use this resource that FamilySearch	You don’t have to be the library, just the librarian Ever been asked a family history	Find 1 interesting or helpful features and share with your group		Introduce The Family History Guide tool - See also: How To Use FamilySearch

directs us to, to learn more about FS	question you couldn't answer? (Chat)			on ChurchofJesus Christ.org (links to TFHG)
Using a pedigree chart to gather information	Fillable form you can use with investigators			Pedigree Chart
Create a FamilySearch acct	--What it looks like for investigators - no MRN --Free to all	Poll: What device will your investigators be using?	Reach out to someone - help them create an account - "I need to practice this class assignment"	Church acct for missionaries
Introduce 4 generations - What are they - Why do we want them?	Learn, so you can help Inv when they answer your questions "Are your grandparents living?"			Missionaries should have their 4 generations already on a chart

Prep Assignment: Download the FamilySearch Tree app to your device, Bring your [four-generation pedigree chart](#) to class

Post Assignment:

- Watch "Promised Blessings of Family History"
- [The Family History Guide: FamilySearch - Project 1: Family - Goal 1: Navigate](#)
- Download the FamilySearch Memories app - prep for next week

Class Format:

Host/Co-host meet (Zoom) 15 min early

Announcements - post in the chat box before class starts

Introductions (breakout if more than 10) - 5 min

Opening prayer & Devotional - from missionary - 5 min (Ryan coordinate)

Family History Discussion - 40 min

- Introduce the skill
- Apply to missionaries (have them do this)
- Demonstrate
- Practice, discuss, share

Doctrine or principle - 5 min

Closing prayer

[Class #1 - Building the Foundation](#)

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #2 - Memories

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

Family History Skill	Applications for Missionaries	In-class Exercise or Activity Options	After-class Assignment Ideas	Notes
Add audio, stories, photos, and documents to FamilySearch Memories Take a picture of something and add it - maybe a family photo, mission picture - careful with tagging - don't upload anything private	Accessing and sharing memories helps make teaching come alive. Audio recording helps solidify a story in your mind to verbally share it more easily again another time An online repository of memories enables missionaries to gain inspiration from their ancestors and will do the same for their posterity. Able to teach this skill to others Document testimony along	Upload/Open the FamilySearch Memories App (need a FS account first - see lesson #1) Add a photo - Share photo or screenshot in breakout group Practice by adding an audio recording to your FamilySearch memories: Ideas: • Share your testimony • Talk about your mission Can delete it, record something new (removes the	Help someone else add his or her testimony and/or a story to FS Memories *An additional option is to interview family members and audio record their stories (the above link has additional links to interview question ideas). This is a great skill to teach investigators. It can help them begin to make connections to	Who Can See My Living Relatives? Note: The FHG may be accessed by those being taught and by others. Missionaries will only be able to access it on their devices when not serving missions. Additional step by step help for the memories app in The Family History Guide here. What a blessing to know this skill!

	with current mission experience (historic time in the world) - preserve for you and your family but also because the church may have need of your documentation	worry of first time recording!)	the past to open the door to discussions about eternal families. Add more audio recordings as time permits!	See The Hearts of The Children Shall Turn by Elder Bednar. "The Lord has made available in our day remarkable resources that enable you to learn about and love this work that is sparked by the Spirit of Elijah. For example, FamilySearch is a collection of records, resources, and services easily accessible with personal computers and a variety of handheld devices, designed to help people discover and document their family history."
Use the audio icon under a photo in your memories to record a few details about it	When a missionary uploads a current photo, adding audio in his or her own voice or the voice of someone in the photo can enhance that memory... Sharing the photo/audio during the mission may help others being taught Adding audio to	Add or select a photo from your gallery. You could even take a photo with your phone and add it. Add audio. Try a companion photo or add a photo of a mission picture you have.	Practice this skill and invite family members to also. Memories was never meant to be a free photo storage service :) Users are encouraged to upload photos that help with discovering, gathering, and connecting	How wonderful it would be to actually hear the voice of an ancestor! Think ahead to your own posterity! Also, adding at least a title and dates can help identify photos. Adding audio information assures that the photo will be understood

	photos of ancestors will preserve the missionary's voice to inspire generations to come - this is also something that may be beneficial in finding people to teach		their families.	and cherished even more! If short on time - they can do this after class
Lesson #3 will cover some of this info - but looking at options for finding and sharing stories along with tagging and organizing may be discussed during this lesson due to questions or comments Missionaries are asked to bring stories and four generations with them on their missions (this is universal, right?)	Share stories from your heritage as needed in finding contacts, making connections, and in teaching Some missionaries may be the first convert in their families (see notes in the last column) From Preach My Gospel Talk to people about their families. Help them see how the restored gospel can be a blessing to their families. Offer to help them find the names of grandparents, great-grandparents, or other ancestors.	Tag a photo If there is time, one idea is to have the class members divide into small groups and practice sharing a personal story that teaches/illustrates a <i>Preach My Gospel</i> principle found in chapter three	See in-class activity ideas	Reference: Ten Ways To Discover, Gather, and Share Ancestor Stories From THFG: FamilySearch Memories Some missionaries may not be able to locate ancestor stories - they may share their own personal stories and stories that inspire them. Some examples are found here, as well as in this article and in Church History Tells of Extraordinary Pioneer Youth.

				How Rare A Possession Pioneer Trek Stories FamilySearch Blog Pioneer Stories of Faith Missionaries could create a FamilySearch Memories album for their mission photos, documents, and audio files

Prep Assignment: Download the Memories App - [FamilySearch Audio App Instructions](#) A link that can also be given to others: [The Family History Guide Audio App Instructions](#)

Post Assignment: see notes

Teacher Prep:

- PPT for teaching, inc screenshots
- Links for pasting into Zoom

Additional Resources:

Kathryn's ppts:

- [The Person Page Memories Tab](#)
- [Basics of the FamilySearch Gallery](#)
- [FamilySearch Gallery for Power Users](#)

Angelle:

[Add Multiple Photos In FamilySearch Memories](#)
[Adding Memories to FamilySearch - BYU Webinar](#)
[Feeling the Blessings of The Temple At Home](#)
[Share #52Stories from Your Personal History This Year](#)
[Bring a Family Story to Life with Oral Histories](#)
[20 Questions You Can Use to Capture Grandma's Story](#)

[How Do I Share Memories With Family and Friends?](#)

[Preserving Audio-visual Material on FamilySearch](#)

As a side note: This [blog](#) has a list of the 48 principles in Chapter Three of PMG along with an idea to create a scripture glue-in for each one. Personal stories work well for helping to teach the principles. The idea (of teaching principles using personal stories and/or stories from church history, people who inspire them, etc.) is one that may resonate with some of the missionaries and is something they can work on while quarantined if it interests them.

[Class #2 Memories](#)

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #3 - Finding Connections

Monday, April 6, 2020

Kathryn

Family History Skill	Application for Missionaries	In-class Exercise or Activity	After-class Assignment	Notes
Connect with your ancestor through a story	Build testimony by finding stories of courage in your family tree	1. Go to the fan chart in Family Tree. 2. On the right menu, click Stories. 3. Choose an ancestor with one or more stories; go to his or her Person page. 4. Read one or more stories. 5. Break into groups and share stories with each other.	Help an investigator or someone else find a story on their family tree. Ask them to share why the story is meaningful to them.	*courage in some way: missionary, moving to a new land, breaking out of a cycle of poverty. Investigators with early Church members on their tree could use this site: Do you have an early missionary in your Family Tree? (would likely not apply to most investigators, though.) Keep in mind for investigators that there needs to be a FS account and information filled in to make the time-line work to

				find stories. An alternate is to use the suggestion From Preach My Gospel Talk to people about their families. Help them see how the restored gospel can be a blessing to their families. Offer to help them find the names of grandparents, great-grandparents, or other ancestors. Note: A missionary can show an investigator his or her own timeline (the missionary's timeline) as a motivation to help the investigator want to get an account etc.
Connect with your ancestor through the Person page time line	Get to know an ancestor by looking at his or her timeline on the Person page.	1. Go to any ancestor's Person page in Family Tree. 2. Click Time Line. Try any of the following: • Click any event in the timeline to see it highlighted on the map. • Click Satellite (top left of map) to see where an event	Help an investigator or someone else discover something about an ancestor using the time line.	Can use the timeline to fill in the blanks - teach them this

		took place. • Click Show Route to see where your ancestor traveled. • Click Show above the timeline and try showing or hiding various options.		
MB - Share one of my most precious stories - Trailer Ride (Grandpa)				

Prep Assignment:

Post Assignment:

Teacher Prep:

- PPT for teaching, inc screenshots
- Links for pasting into Zoom

Additional Resources:

Kathryn's ppts:

- [The Person Page Time Line](#) (slide deck)
- [The Person Page Time Line](#) (webinar)

[All the Stories](#) (3rd party site)

Resources from Angelle:

Build testimony by finding [early missionaries in your Family Tree](#).

[10 Ways to Discover, Gather, and Share Ancestor Stories](#) (and a lot of other ideas for making connections)

From THFG: [FamilySearch Memories](#)

If you are not able to locate ancestor stories - share Your own personal stories and stories that inspire them. Some examples are found [here](#), as well as in [this article](#)

Inspiring Stories: [How Rare A Possession](#), [Pioneer Trek Stories](#), [Pioneer Stories of Faith](#),

See also: [Discover Pioneer Relatives](#), [Women of Faith](#), [Relatives in Nauvoo](#), and [Missionary Database](#)

[Church History Tells of Extraordinary Pioneer Youth."](#)

[FamilySearch Blog](#)

Research first converts in each line - what is the story?

If you could talk to an ancestor right now, who would it be and what would you ask?

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #4 - Exploring Countries

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

Family History Skill	Application for Missionaries	In-class Exercise or Activity	After-class Assignment	Notes
Discover where an ancestor is from	Help investigators learn where their ancestors are from	On your four-generation chart or on the Family Tree fan chart, find an ancestor who is not from the same country as you are. Invite class members to share the countries of their ancestors. Google Earth OR Satellite View on FS Timeline	Introduce someone in your family to the FS fan chart countries option	Great “finding” tool At home & abroad (worldwide) Homelands, mission areas, ancestors’ homes, places of historical interest, etc. TFHG Countries section (takes you directly to record repositories in that country) FS Wiki FamilySearch fan chart “countries option” To go back farther than 7 generations, click the gray icon on any

				person on your tree, and that person will become the “start person” giving you the option to go farther than 7 generations (from you) in that line!
Learn more about that country: language(s), culture, traditions, food, government, etc.	Help investigators learn about the country of one of their ancestors	Discovery Activity: Where am I from (Generations, Family lines, heritage, timeline, converts, immigrants)) Look up a country in the FamilySearch wiki or take a virtual tour in the FamilySearch blog	Choose an ancestor from a different country and learn more about that country.	
Become familiar with genealogy language word lists in the FamilySearch wiki	Help investigators become familiar with these word lists to make it easier to read the records of their ancestors	Look at a genealogical word list from the country of one of your ancestors. Learn a new word and share it with the class.	Learn more words from a genealogical word list.	
Look at a historical record for the ancestor (if there is time)	Help investigators become familiar with historical records from their ancestor’s country	Go to the person page of the ancestor in Family Tree. Options: • Look at a source if one is attached • Look at a record hint if	Look at a historical record in a foreign language and use a word list to decipher	

		one is attached • Click the FamilySearch logo in the right panel to find other possible records	some of the words	

Prep Assignment:

Post Assignment:

Teacher Prep:

- PPT for teaching, inc screenshots
- Links for pasting into Zoom

Additional Resources - Love these! Thank you, Angelle

[Eat What They Ate](#)

[Walk Where They Walked](#)

[Feel What They Felt](#)

More activities [here](#). “In-home” activities on FS

[Explore Your Cultural Heritage With the FS Country Pages](#)

[Country Flags of The World](#)

[WORLD'S LARGEST COUNTRIES](#)

[WORLD'S SMALLEST COUNTRIES](#)

[MOST POPULOUS COUNTRIES](#)

[WORLD'S RICHEST COUNTRIES](#)

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #5 - The Gift of Indexing

Monday, April 13, 2020

Family History Skill	Application for Missionaries	In-class Exercise or Activity	After-class Assignment	Notes
		(Possible) engagement		This quick activity could

		activity: Poll 1. How many have indexed before? 2. How often do you index?		give you information to adapt the class to the needs of the students
Understand why we do Indexing.	Help investigators, fellowshipping families , and inactive members understand the benefits of indexing	Could make this interactive by asking questions: 1. What is indexing? (They may only have a vague idea or none at all.) 2. What are the benefits of indexing? Also, you could ask someone to share an experience they had on their mission with indexing.		Benefits include: 1. Making historical records searchable, which enables people to find family members for temple work. 2. Becoming familiar with historical records. 3. Feeling the Spirit. https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/5-ways-excited-indexing/
Learn the basics of indexing	Invite investigators become familiar with indexing by taking the Guided Tour .	Invite everyone to take the Guided Tour , even if they've taken it before. • Show them where it is, get them started • Ask them to take it from the perspective of an investigator. • Point out the project	Take the Guided Tour	

		instructions and field helps.		
How to find and start a project	Help investigators find projects to index that fit their skill level and interest. Help them actually start a batch.	Learn to use the Find Batches screen (better for beginners than the Project page, which doesn't allow searching by difficulty level)	Index 1 batch - try your mission language, if applicable For those who are interested: Handwriting game	

Prep Assignment:

Post Assignment: Index at least one batch; try English and/or your mission language.

Teacher Prep:

- PPT for teaching, inc screenshots
- Links for pasting into Zoom

Additional Resources:

For students:

- FamilySearch [Handwriting Helps](#)
- Early American [Handwriting Game](#)
- [Editing Dates and Places on Indexed Records](#)
- [Indexing Project 5](#) at The Family History Guide, with instruction, videos & exercises
- [Hear Him President Nelson April General Conference 2020](#)

Kathryn's ppt:

- [Getting Started with FamilySearch Indexing](#)

[Editing Dates and Places on Indexed Records](#)

[Hear Him President Nelson April General Conference 2020](#) While worshipping in the temple is presently not possible, I invite you to increase your participation in family history, including family history research and indexing. I promise that as you increase your time in temple and family history work, you will increase and improve your ability to hear Him.

Perfect. I'm going to use this quote to introduce the lesson.

[A Sacrifice of Time: Indexing](#)

[The Miracle Of Community Indexing](#) success story included

Video: [Redeeming The Dead Redeemed Me](#)

Video: [Fuel The Find](#)

Check out these experiences individuals have had with indexing:

[MacKenzie Hughes](#) [Kaylie Sorensen](#) [Davi de Silva](#) [Zhanna Bilchuck](#) [Fernando Motta](#)

Read about more indexing experiences [here](#).

<https://www.familysearch.org/indexing/my-indexing> keep track of your individual efforts

[A Family Volunteers from Home—and Reaps Surprising Benefits](#)

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #6 - Sources

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

Family History Skill or Principle	Application for Missionaries	In-class Exercise or Activity	After-class Assignment	Notes
Sources	Since the FamilySearch Family Tree is a collaborative tree and many of us have ancestors in common, it's important to verify the information you enter and provide sources to show others where your information came from. Important when helping others.	Chat - What are examples of a family history "source"? Be creative - let's see how many different sources we can come up with.		Refer to class #5 - because people do indexing, others can find records sources!
Temple ordinances are	Everyone will understand a	Annotate: FS person page		Johann Hartmann

the “why” - sources are the engine, or the “how” They offer the foundation or the base for ordinances, the “Tree” and relationships	“birth certificate” even if they have no experience with family history	Where could you find sources? - Vitals > Edit - Research Help (hints) - Search - Latest Changes - Sources tab Add app screenshot “Family With Sources” (person page under “print”) Ancestors or Descendants With recommended Tasks on the home page		
Who has sources already attached?		Fan chart/Sources filter + app Summary card (# of sources) Chat - Enter the highest # of sources that you see on the Family Tree --how on app?	Family History Scavenger Hunt (for younger kids) More extensive list https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Youth_Discovery_Activities	If time - I could modify this to target sources specifically
Sources tab - see what sources are attached, if any; become	Turn “dry” “genealogy” into a heart-turning link with an ancestor --draft	MB Demonstrate - Find one source that hits this home + app Practice -		Additional relationships Additional events and

familiar with the <u>person</u>	reg=signature --census=occupation --find-a-grave=birth/death/ often parents/cause of death	Breakout - Find a source (sources tab) that tells you something new about an ancestor, and share it		facts More correct dates Name variations More complete place-names
CredibilityCredibility	Like scriptures - the author, or the "source" makes a difference - can we trust them?	Is this person the same person as your family member? Are the ages or dates correct? Does the record show the right family relationships? Are place-names what you would expect?		
Link source using hints		Demonstrate , Teach: "Is this his record" then they: Practice Use Landscape view - find hints using icon - link one	Attach 3 Record Hints	Find a person who has very few sources already attached
Not teaching:				
Attach paper source	Many investigators will have paper documents they want to add			This feels too big for this class, too complicated to teach in time

				allowed. Maybe give them a resource document? Remind them that at least they can take a photo and put the documents on FS memories and link to a person by tagging...then add the source later when they get the hang of it

Prep Assignment:

Post Assignment:

Teacher Prep:

- PPT for teaching, inc screenshots
- Links for pasting into Zoom

Additional Resources:

- [The Family History Guide: Goal 9 - Record Hints, Attach Sources](#)
- [The Family History Guide: Goal 8 - Adding Sources](#)
- [How do I attach record hints in Family Tree?](#)
- [RecordSeek for Recording Sources in Family Tree](#)
- <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/add-sources/>
- <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/record-hints-how-to/>
- <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/fix-incorrect-record-links/>

<http://fh.familysearch.org/system/files/team/ait/images/blog/discover-gather-connect.pdf>

page 37, 38...recommended tasks screen shot

Stories about finding family members from records/sources

- <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/record-helped-uncover-family-story/>

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #7 - Temple Ordinances

Family History Skill	Application for Missionaries	In-class Exercise or Activity	After-class Assignment	Notes
We can provide proxy ordinances for our deceased family members Briefly review this doctrine - students teach - 8 min	• Help members understand that they can do temple work for deceased family members • Converts were likely found by the missionaries for this purpose. (see #1) • Help new converts find strength to stay on the covenant path through temple	Maybe watch one of the videos about how temple work strengthens new members (3rd video on Elder Bednar page particularly good) Breakout + Group Pres Eyring quote Renlund quote (footnote 1) Video segment (if needed)		1. See Hearts Bound Together (Pres Eyring) - "When you were baptized, your ancestors looked down on you with hope. Perhaps after centuries, they rejoiced to see one of their descendants make a covenant to find them and to offer them freedom." 2. Elder Bednar videos - Hearts and retention

	ordinances ¹			
Understand the vital role of the Holy Ghost in doing temple and family history work Briefly review this doctrine - 5 min	- Just as missionaries need the Spirit in finding, teaching, and baptizing, they and their converts need the Spirit in doing temple and family history work. <u>They</u> can have powerful, connecting experiences with their ancestors in the temple	Maybe have one or two missionaries tell of an experience when the Spirit guided them in missionary work, then liken it to family history. Maybe some can even share experiences with converts and family history. This could end up absorbing a lot of time, though, if it's not limited :) In the interest of time ... Share Pres. Nelson's admonition and my testimony		<u>President Nelson</u>: "I plead with you to increase your spiritual capacity to receive revelation." I have found that doing family history is one of the best ways to learn how the Spirit speaks to us and grow in our ability to hear the Spirit. New converts (and all of us) need this!
Prepare names for temple ordinances 1 - for themselves 2 - for new converts Focus time here - 30 min	- Help new converts attend the temple soon after baptism - Help them understand how to prepare family names for the temple	Maybe walk through adding a name from a convert's <i>My Family</i> booklet (or pedigree chart) to Family Tree? Refer to class #1? - YES - if anyone needs help then perhaps they could stay after class to get it		Consider: for most new converts, Ordinances Ready (OR) will not return a family name.² Better to see if they have close family members who need to be added. Maybe

¹ From Angelle: In the [Family History Leadership session at RootsTech in 2017](#), Elder Dale G. Renlund explained: "Convert participation in temple and family history work is positively correlated with retention at one year. In our research, new converts consistently disclose that when they are vicariously baptized for their deceased ancestors or make new discoveries in their family history, they re-experience the same feelings they initially felt as investigators. These feelings and memories build a defense against the challenges they face during their first year in the Church." ***see more quotes on this topic below**

² See this FamilySearch knowledge article:

<https://www.familysearch.org/help/salesforce/viewArticle?urlname=How-the-Ordinance-Ready-feature-works&lang=en>

OR finds names by crawling the person's tree. If it doesn't find a name on the person's tree, it will give them a random name shared with the temple.

Of course it's not bad to take a name shared with the temple! But it's much more powerful for new converts if they can do a close family name.

				using the <i>My Family</i> booklet or just a pedigree chart? Concerns about OR. ³
110-year rule One year since death rule Introduce this, share links for more info	Help investigators understand when temple work can be done for close family members	• 110-year rule: if person was born < 110 years ago, permission must be obtained from closest living relative (of course, the convert may qualify!) • Person must be deceased for one year before ordinances can be performed	Breakout rooms: have missionaries role play explaining these rules to new converts (Again, there's the danger of this taking too much time. Following the Spirit and preparing names should probably get the bulk of the time.)	Maybe these rules should just be mentioned as part of the previous segment. - Yes! Closest Living Relative (no order, pray, but don't shop around): --spouse --child --parent --sibling
Mid-lesson activity		It might be good to add an activity for fun and motivation such as "All About Me" https://www.familysearch.org/discovery/about from FamilySearch. Guessing the answers	<--Love this! 1 - in class - # of temples when I was born 2 - assignment - explore at home, for FHE - introduce your family	

³ I don't think these comments need to be part of the lesson, but I wanted to add them since OR may come up. **Here are key reasons I approach OR with extreme caution:**

1. It results in a less powerful experience. People who've done both say there's a huge difference between finding and adding an ancestor's name, and just clicking a button to get a name.
2. It minimizes or removes the role of the Spirit in doing family history (many people don't really think about listening to the Spirit when they click a button to get a name--it doesn't seem necessary).
3. It promotes misconceptions:
 - a) This is the "new" way to "do family history" (research isn't needed any more)
 - b) The Church will do my family history for me (it doesn't help people become self-sufficient)
 - c) Since OR is on the FamilySearch website, it must find valid names (no need to check)
4. But...FT does not validate the name except for default duplicate and error checking. And as you know, FT misses many duplicate names. Also, many names have other problems and aren't really ready (e.g., died before 8, in wrong family because of bad merges)
5. OR only searches **in** Family Tree. There are ~1.3B names in FT, but ~110B have lived on the earth. OR doesn't search among the 99% who still need to be added to FT.

		for the year you (Melanie) were born would be fun. This game works best with four generations filled in on their trees, but they can see how it works by using you and your info.		
--	--	---	--	--

Prep Assignment:

Post Assignment: **For Lesson #8: Be thinking of a time when you or someone you know received help with temple and family history work from either side of the veil (stories they feel comfortable sharing)**

Teacher Prep:

- PPT for teaching, inc screenshots
- Links for pasting into Zoom

Additional Resources/Quotes

- FS - [How to Request Ordinances for ancestor born in the last 110 years](#)
- The Family History Guide

[Elder Cook, Rootstech 2018](#) “The combination of more temples and advanced technology for family history work “make this the most blessed time in all history.”

[Elder Foster, Rootstech 2018](#) “Every person can help gather his or her family. “The first and best opportunity is in the first few generations of each member’s family, which is called family living memory. The second is an ongoing family effort to find other ancestors and cousins throughout your entire family...For the first step, there is no need for research or technology, he noted, just have simple but powerful conversations with family members. “Did you know that only 25 percent of members of the Church worldwide have the names of all of their parents, grandparents and great-grandparents in the Family Tree [of FamilySearch.org]? Did you know that only 2 percent of recent converts worldwide have the names of these same family members in the Family Tree?...That means more than 100 million four-generation ancestors of Church members have not yet been gathered in the Family Tree [equating to more than a half-billion ordinances waiting to be performed]...The time is here to rescue our family and help others in our wards and stakes in the rescue of their families,” he said. “We are asking all of you to begin to shepherd this rescue now.”

[Elder Renlund, Rootstech 2018](#) “New converts begin their lifelong pursuit of family history the same way that multigenerational families have always started family history work, by talking to living family members and recording what they remember.”

See his “Gumdrop Story” [one chopstick picking them up won’t work] - “One way members and missionaries come together in the work of salvation is in temple and family history work.

“Whether living or dead, individuals who do not harden their hearts will be saved in the kingdom of God. Members and missionaries work together, like the chopsticks to accomplish this work.”

“New converts who participate in temple and family history work are **retained at a higher rate**...Those who are new and tender in the gospel include 12-year-old youth and new converts...As they are focused on temple and family history work, more will remain active, more will be protected when the storms and fierce winds strike.”

“We invite all new converts and new 12-year-olds to discover and gather their families and become active participants in the plan of salvation. We desire to involve 11-year-old children and even younger children in family history work and encourage them to qualify for a limited-use temple recommend when they turn 12 years old...Thus, they can and are encouraged to perform proxy baptisms in temples whenever and wherever possible. Involvement of 12-year-olds and new converts will have a “halo effect” on all who help...Faith in the Savior of family and friends who help will increase.”

More notes about this talk (most of this will be covered in Class #8, but this is good info for this class also: Citing the words from President [Russell M. Nelson](#) when he addressed the membership of the Church from the Salt Lake Temple on January 16, Elder Renlund said, “We encourage everyone to get on the covenant path as soon as possible—even, especially, when they are new and tender in the gospel—and then **stay focused on the blessings of the temple**.”

This encouragement, Elder Renlund emphasized, is because the data are incontrovertible that young men who participate in temple and family history work have a higher rate of being ordained elders and going on missions.

“But how can we accomplish this? Ward temple and family history consultants provide the answer.” He quoted the statement of President Russell M. Nelson given at RootsTech 2017: “If I were a missionary today, my two best friends would be the **ward mission leader and the ward temple and family history consultant**.” Elder Renlund added, “If I were a bishop, Primary leader, youth leader, parent, or anyone else who loves a child and wants to see him or her stay on the covenant path with the end in mind, one of my best friends would be the ward temple and family history consultant.” Similarly, if he were a bishop and wanted to help **new converts** stay on the covenant path, his best friends would include the ward mission leader and ward temple and family history consultant.

Missionary, Family History, and Temple Work - Elder David A. Bednar Some individuals may wonder how both preaching the gospel *and* seeking after our dead can be simultaneously the greatest duties and responsibilities God has placed upon His children. My purpose is to suggest that these teachings highlight the unity and oneness of the latter-day work of salvation. **Missionary work and family history and temple work are complementary and interrelated aspects of one great work**, “that in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him” ([Ephesians 1:10](#)).

...the spirit of Elijah is central in and vital to the work of proclaiming the gospel. Perhaps the Lord was emphasizing this truth in the very sequence of events that occurred as the fulness of the gospel was restored to the earth in these latter days.

...“Behold, I will reveal unto you the Priesthood, by the hand of Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. ... And he shall plant in the hearts of the children the promises made to the fathers, and the hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers. If it were not so, the whole earth would be utterly wasted at his coming” ([Joseph Smith—History 1:38–39](#)).

Moroni’s instructions to the young prophet ultimately included two primary themes: (1) the Book of Mormon and (2) the **words of Malachi** foretelling the role of Elijah in the restoration “of all things, which

God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began” ([Acts 3:21](#)). Thus, the introductory events of the Restoration revealed a correct understanding of the Godhead, established the reality of continuing revelation, emphasized the importance of the Book of Mormon, and **anticipated the work of salvation and exaltation for both the living and the dead.**

The time has come for us to capitalize more effectively on the potent combination of the mighty change of heart, made possible primarily by the spiritual power of the Book of Mormon, and the turning of hearts to the fathers, accomplished through the spirit of Elijah. A yearning for connection to our past can prepare an individual to receive the virtue of the word of God and fortify his or her faith. A heart turning to the fathers uniquely helps an individual withstand the influence of the adversary and **strengthen conversion.**

I now want to identify four principles about the spiritual power that results from changing and turning hearts.

1. **Hearts and conversion.** Turning to the fathers awakens and prepares a heart for the mighty change. Thus, the spirit of Elijah helps in conversion.
Watch the third video to view a story demonstrating this principle.
2. **Hearts and retention.** Turning to the fathers sustains and strengthens hearts that have experienced the mighty change. Thus, the spirit of Elijah helps in retaining new converts.
Watch the fourth video to view a story demonstrating this principle.
3. **Hearts and reactivation.** Turning to the fathers softens a heart that has become hardened after experiencing the mighty change. Thus, the spirit of Elijah is key in reactivation.
Watch the fifth video to view a story demonstrating this principle.
4. **Hearts and valiant missionaries.** A missionary who has experienced both the mighty change and the turning of the heart will be a more converted, consecrated, and valiant servant.

With a rapidly expanding and better-prepared missionary force, we simply cannot rely exclusively on past proselyting successes to determine our course and methods for the future. The Lord has inspired technologies and tools that enable us to benefit from the oneness of missionary work and temple and family history work more than at any previous time in this dispensation. And it is no coincidence that these innovations have come forth at precisely the time they are so needed to advance missionary work all over the earth. The Lord’s work is one majestic work focused upon hearts that change and turn, on sacred covenants, and upon the power of godliness manifested through priesthood ordinances.

Preaching the gospel and seeking after our dead are complementary parts of one great work—a labor of love intended to change, turn, and purify the hearts of honest seekers of truth. The artificial boundary line we so often place between missionary work and temple and family history work is being erased; this is one great work of salvation.⁶

Can we begin to understand the role of temple and family history work in helping an investigator or a less-active member obtain a deeper understanding of the plan of salvation? Do we recognize that one of the greatest influences on convert retention is the spirit of Elijah? Can we more fully appreciate the importance of heart-turning moments occasioned by the sharing of family stories as a means of finding people to teach by both members and missionaries? Can we help those we serve access more often the powers of godliness by participating worthily in ordinances such as the sacrament and baptisms and confirmations for the dead?

May you see clearly, hear unmistakably, and ever remember the importance of your service in the Lord’s work of changing, turning, and purifying hearts.

President Eyring "[Gathering the Family of God](#)," Ensign or Liahona May 2017

"I bear testimony that Elijah did come. The hearts of the children—of you and me—have turned to our fathers, our ancestors. The affection you feel for your ancestors is part of the fulfillment of that prophecy. It is deeply seated in your sense of who you are. But it has to do with more than just inherited DNA ... to gather and unite God's family requires more than just warm feelings. **It requires sacred covenants made in connection with priesthood ordinances.** Many of your ancestors did not receive those ordinances. But in the providence of God, you did. And God knew that you would feel drawn to your ancestors in love and that you would have the technology necessary to identify them. He also knew that you would live in a time when **access to holy temples**, where the ordinances can be performed, would be greater than ever in history. And He knew that **He could trust you to accomplish this work in behalf of your ancestors.**

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #8 - Working as a Team

Family History Skill	Application for Missionaries	In-class Exercise or Activity	After-class Assignment	Notes
Intro, Return & Report 5 min				
Family History as a part of Missionary Work 10 min	From Preach My Gospel "Talk to people about their families. Help them see how the restored gospel can be a blessing to their families. Offer to help them find the names of grandparents, great-grandparents, or other ancestors..." PPT Slide w/quote See quote in notes to the right Open the Heavens Through	Brainstorm possible ways to begin conversations - have class members share any successful experiences Practice by having class members take turns offering to be a missionary asking a question or a contact at the door Breakout Show clips from	Read (and watch the videos) Elder Bednar's presentation: Missionary, Family History, and Temple Work. Make notes on ways you can use what you have learned (this would be fun to do with your family - ideas for member missionary work included)	Elder Bednar - family history and missionary work - "one great work of salvation" 2013 seminar for new mission presidents President Nelson: Open the Heavens Through Temple and Family History Work: People have an inborn desire to know something about their ancestors. That becomes a natural opportunity for

	Temple and Family History Work:	one or more videos in Elder Bednar's Missionary, Family History, and Temple Work. Video: Missionaries More Fully Converted	Resource: Become familiar with how temple and family history work is carried out in a ward and what the full-time missionaries can do (see Elder Renlund—2019 Leadership Session Summary (this should only take a few minutes!))	our missionaries. As missionaries learn to love the people they teach, they will naturally ask about their families. 'Are your parents living? Are your grandparents living? Do you know your four grandparents?' Conversations flow easily when those who are drawn to speak with the missionaries are invited to talk about the people they love. Added to ppt - slide (see more in "resources" below), and in the next row about consultants
Earthly team members: Lead others to these helpers (can work as a team with them if you receive permission): -- Stake and Ward Family History	From PMG: "Enlist the help of ward temple and family history consultants" When consultants are not available, see the "Help" tab in FamilySearch - also introduce The Family History	Your part - to lead others to places to get the help they need - you don't need to know all the "research" answers, or spend time actually doing research with others, but you can help get	Find a TFHC in your current ward or stake. Ask them how they help missionaries, and how you can help them. TFHG - Complete one	Resources FamilySearch Help Center www.thefhgguide.com Elder Renlund—2019 Leadership Session Summary (ward

Consultants -- On-line help (familySearch and The Family History Guide) -- Ward leaders (see responsibilities) and also individuals and families who are willing to help others (Fellowshipping using family history) Families of those you work with 20 min	Guide (a FamilySearch approved training tool) to those you teach and look forward to using it post mission yourself (not yet approved for missionary phones) for step-by-step help with any part of family history Teach teams PPT slide w/quote	them interested, involved, and informed of available assistance. Class Discuss Using the “help” link/menu on the FamilySearch home page, how would you find answers questions such as these: --I would love to do family history work, how do I begin? --How do I set up a FamilySearch Account? --How can I find out who my ward consultants are? Discuss what other questions could be answered... What are you learning? How can you lead others to information/answers? In-Class TFHG Intro: --have them give me a question	goal so that you are familiar with this tool --they pick a goal	structure) See entire presentation here. RootsTech Family Discovery Day—Opening Session 2017 President Nelson: “If I were a missionary today, my two best friends in the ward or branch where I served would be the ward mission leader and the ward temple and family history consultant” He talks about the conversations (see above): ...Then the missionaries can make this suggestion: ‘I have a friend at our church who can help. If we could find the names of some or maybe even all of your great-grandparents, would it be worth a couple of hours of your time to find out who your great-grandparents are?’ That friend at church, of course, is the ward temple and family history consultant.
--	---	---	---	---

Our Team in Heaven - help from the other side of the veil 10 min	Missionary work Sister Nelson: I think it can be comforting for missionaries to know that they are never alone when they are finding and teaching those who are receptive to the truths of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. President George Q. Cannon (1827–1901), who served as a counselor to four Presidents of the Church, taught that in these latter days, those who are joining the Church are joining precisely because their ancestors have been praying for one of their posterity to join the Church so that they, the ancestors, can receive their essential ordinances by proxy.⁵ Quoted by Sister Nelson Open the Heavens Through Temple and Family History Work Play as sound clip	Inter-Missionaries share stories of help received from inspiration in doing family history work (their own lives or from others) --Facebook request --Send as email Angelle share story: From Angelle: Personal story about a grandfather whose great-grandson was named for him. When this boy was about ready to serve his mission, his great-grandfather appeared in a dream to his son, the missionary's grandfather. The great-grandfather was sitting on a chair bending over and tying his shoes. He was wearing a business suit. His son asked him where he was going. He answered, I will be going with my great-grandson on his mission." This sweet man had not been able to serve while alive..		The Savior opened missionary work in the spirit world after His death. See Week 14: Come, Follow Me Companion 2020 Find a way to include this: Sister Wendy Nelson: How Angels Can Help Us More in Our Lives We know the Lord gets His work done with the help of His angels! And who are His angels? President Joseph F. Smith declared: "When messengers are sent to minister to the inhabitants of this earth, they are not strangers, but from the ranks of our kindred [and] friends... In like manner, our fathers and mothers, brothers, sisters, and friends who have passed away from this earth, having been faithful, and worthy to enjoy these rights and privileges, may have a mission given them to visit their relatives and friends upon the earth again, bringing from the divine Presence messages of love, of warning, of reproof and instruction to those whom they had learned to love in

				the flesh.” So, could you use a little more help in your life? If so, keep your covenants with more exactness than you ever have before! And then ask for angels (a.k.a. your ancestors and other loved ones) to help you with <i>whatever</i> you need. Or ask for them to be dispatched to help those you love!
Temple and family History promises and blessings for gathering Israel on both sides of the veil - for missionaries and those with whom they work We cannot be made perfect without each other !“They without us should not be made perfect” (Hebrews 11:40; see also <i>Teachings: Joseph Smith</i>, 475). And “neither can we without our dead	Motivation for Missionaries "You—my dear extraordinary youth—were sent to earth at his precise time, this most crucial time in the history of the earth, to help gather Israel ... There is nothing happening on this earth right now that is more important than that. There is nothing of greater consequence. Absolutely nothing. This gathering should mean everything to you. This is the mission for which you were sent to earth." (Worldwide Devotional for	Note: Many families may not be interested in doing research at first - activities help them get interested in family history and want to begin making discoveries! For members: FamilySearch Discovery - Go to “In-home Activities” on FamilySearch and view the ideas and activities to help prepare to go to the temple. Look at the variety of activities found here to use with or without	If there is time during class: Prep for next week--look at the Activities and try some out if you have time!	Refer to Elder Dale G. Renlund, "Family History and Temple Work: Sealing and Healing," General Conference, April 2018) (see the list of promises in “resources” below) David A. Bednar The Hearts of the Children Shall Turn I invite the young people of the Church to learn about and experience the Spirit of Elijah. I encourage you to study, to search out your ancestors, and to prepare yourselves to perform proxy baptisms in the

be made perfect” (D&C 128:15).	Youth, June 3, 2018, Salt Lake City). Quentin L. Cook taught, you should not "underestimate the influence of the deceased in assisting your efforts."	internet. Check out over 200 activities in The Family History Guide Activities section (see tab on home page) These are separated into categories, so that non-members can try activities that are not Latter-day Saint oriented.	house of the Lord for <i>your</i> kindred dead (see D&C 124:28–36). <i>And I urge you to help other people identify their family histories.</i> As you respond in faith to this invitation, your hearts shall turn to the fathers. The promises made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob will be implanted in your hearts. Your patriarchal blessing, with its declaration of lineage, will link you to these fathers and be more meaningful to you. Your love and gratitude for your ancestors will increase. Your testimony of and conversion to the Savior will become deep and abiding. And I promise you will be protected against the intensifying influence of the adversary. As you participate in and love this holy work, you will be safeguarded in your youth and throughout your lives. Refer to The Promised Blessings of Family History <i>Melanie, you showed this video in a class, but new class members may not know about it</i> [Temple and Family History Work] Helped Me Go On A Mission
---	--	---	--

				(video) I like to think about the spirit of Elijah as "a manifestation of the Holy Ghost bearing witness of the divine nature of the family." (Russell M. Nelson, "A New Harvest Time," Ensign, May 1998, 34).
--	--	--	--	---

Prep Assignment: Think of a time when you or others received help with temple and family history work from either side of the veil.

Post Assignment: See the assignments listed above.

Teacher Prep:

- PPT for teaching, inc screenshots
- Links for pasting into Zoom

Additional Resources/Quotes: Add to a “Resources” Doc for the class - post in FB “Files”

Become familiar with how temple and family history work is carried out in a ward and what the full-time missionaries can do (see [Elder Renlund—2019 Leadership Session Summary](#) See entire presentation [Leadership Instruction 2019](#) (including missionaries being invited to ward council when discussing TFH work).

See all [Leadership Instruction](#).

[2020 Temple and Family History Leadership Instruction](#)

You’re probably wondering what someone from the Missionary Department is doing here at a temple and family history meeting. And the answer is simple: It’s all one work. We’re all involved in this same work of gathering Israel on both sides of the veil.

In missionary work, we’ve learned some interesting things. We’ve learned that invitations to others need to be normal and natural; they need to be genuine, and they need to be authentic. And when they’re normal and natural and when they’re genuine and authentic, people are very interested in knowing what it is that we have to share with them.

President Nelson explained that people have an inborn desire to know something about their ancestors. That becomes a natural opportunity for our missionaries. As the missionaries learn to love the people they are contacting, missionaries will naturally ask about their families. Are your

parents living? What about your grandparents? Are they living? Do you know your four grandparents?

Conversations flow easily when those who are drawn to this speak with the missionaries and are invited to talk about the people that they love. So you and I can start by asking a question that leads to a conversation about their family, like, "Tell me about your family. Do you have a grandparent you feel especially close to? Where did your ancestors come from? What stories do you know about them?"

When appropriate, share a family discovery experience, many of which can be found on the Family Tree and Memories apps. For example, find a person on the Family Tree app. Share and preserve photos and stories in the Memories app. The All About Me app on the Family Tree app is also available, as well as the My Family booklet that you can share. Open a box full of photos and share memories together...

Let me introduce to you Sara Hammond and Kayla Jackson, who will **demonstrate what this might look like for you as you share these things with your friends. Ideas for missionaries to open conversations**

In an address to the youth of the church, President Nelson issued an invitation to enlist in the youth battalion of the Lord to participate in "the greatest challenge, the greatest cause, and the greatest work on earth"—the gathering of Israel."

"You—my dear extraordinary youth—were sent to earth at this precise time, this most crucial time in the history of the earth, to help gather Israel ... There is nothing happening on this earth right now that is more important than that. There is nothing of greater consequence. Absolutely nothing. This gathering should mean everything to you. This is the mission for which you were sent to earth." ([Worldwide Devotional for Youth, June 3, 2018, Salt Lake City](#)).

[The Hearts of the Children Shall Turn](#) Elder Bednar - The Spirit of Elijah affects people inside and outside of the Church. However, as members of Christ's restored Church, we have the covenant responsibility to search out our ancestors and provide for them the saving ordinances of the gospel. "They without us should not be made perfect" ([Hebrews 11:40](#); see also *Teachings: Joseph Smith*, 475). And "neither can we without our dead be made perfect" ([D&C 128:15](#)).

For these reasons we do family history research, build temples, and perform vicarious ordinances. For these reasons Elijah was sent to restore the sealing authority that binds on earth and in heaven. We are the Lord's agents in the work of salvation and exaltation that will prevent "the whole earth [from being] smitten with a curse" ([D&C 110:15](#)) when He returns again. This is our duty and great blessing.

An Invitation to the Rising Generation I now invite the attention of the young women, young men, and children of the rising generation as I emphasize the importance of the Spirit of Elijah in your lives today. My message is intended for the entire Church in general—but for you in particular. Many of you may think family history work is to be performed primarily by older people. But I know of no age limit described in the scriptures or guidelines announced by Church leaders restricting this important service to mature adults. You are sons and daughters of God, children of the covenant, and builders of the kingdom. You need not wait until you reach an arbitrary age to fulfill your responsibility to assist in the work of salvation for the human family. The Lord has made available in our day remarkable resources that enable you to learn about and love this work that is sparked by the Spirit of Elijah. For example, FamilySearch is a collection of records, resources, and services easily accessible with personal computers and a variety of handheld devices, designed to help people discover and document their family history. These resources also are available in the family history centers located in many of our Church buildings throughout the world. It is no coincidence that FamilySearch and other tools have come forth at a time when young people are so

familiar with a wide range of information and communication technologies. Your fingers have been trained to text and tweet to accelerate and advance the work of the Lord—not just to communicate quickly with your friends. The skills and aptitude evident among many young people today are a preparation to contribute to the work of salvation.

I invite the young people of the Church to learn about and experience the Spirit of Elijah. I encourage you to study, to search out your ancestors, and to prepare yourselves to perform proxy baptisms in the house of the Lord for your kindred dead (see D&C 124:28–36). And I urge you to help other people identify their family histories. As you respond in faith to this invitation, your hearts shall turn to the fathers. The promises made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob will be implanted in your hearts. Your patriarchal blessing, with its declaration of lineage, will link you to these fathers and be more meaningful to you. Your love and gratitude for your ancestors will increase. Your testimony of and conversion to the Savior will become deep and abiding. And I promise you will be protected against the intensifying influence of the adversary. As you participate in and love this holy work, you will be safeguarded in your youth and throughout your lives.

[Sister Nelson - Miracles From Doing Family History Work](#) Family history research, which involves working with the heavens, lifts me, strengthens me, puts other things in my life into perspective for me, increases my ability to be guided by the Spirit, and brings me personal revelation and such joy!

See [Hearts Bound Together](#) (Pres Eyring) - "When you were baptized, your ancestors looked down on you with hope. Perhaps after centuries, they rejoiced to see one of their descendants make a covenant to find them and to offer them freedom."

"... as we participate in family history and temple work today, we also lay claim to 'healing' blessings promised by prophets and apostles. These blessings are also breathtakingly amazing because of their scope, specificity, and consequence in mortality. This long list includes these blessings:

- Increased understanding of the Savior and His atoning sacrifice;
- Increased influence of the Holy Ghost to feel strength and direction for our own lives;
- Increased faith, so that conversion to the Savior becomes deep and abiding;
- Increased ability and motivation to learn and repent because of an understanding of who we are, where we come from, and a clearer vision of where we are going;
- Increased refining, sanctifying, and moderating influences in our hearts;
- Increased joy through an increased ability to feel the love of the Lord;
- Increased family blessings, no matter our current, past, or future family situation or how imperfect our family tree may be;
- Increased love and appreciation for ancestors and living relatives, so we no longer feel alone;
- Increased power to discern that which needs healing and thus, with the Lord's help, serve others;
- Increased protection from temptations and the intensifying influence of the adversary; and
- Increased assistance to mend troubled, broken, or anxious hearts and make the wounded whole.

If you have prayed for any of these blessings, participate in family history and temple work. As you do so, your prayers will be answered. When ordinances are performed on behalf of the deceased, God's children on earth are healed. No wonder President Russell M. Nelson, in his first message as President of the Church, declared, 'Your worship in the temple and your service there for your ancestors will bless you with increased personal revelation and peace and will

fortify your commitment to stay on the covenant path." (Dale G. Renlund, "[Family History and Temple Work: Sealing and Healing](#)," General Conference, April 2018)

[Helping Others Find Ancestors](#) - especially helpful if a consultant can't be located

[Elder Cook, Rootstech 2018](#) "The combination of more temples and advanced technology for family history work "make this the most blessed time in all history."

[Elder Foster, Rootstech 2018](#) "Every person can help gather his or her family. "The first and best opportunity is in the first few generations of each member's family, which is called family living memory. The second is an ongoing family effort to find other ancestors and cousins throughout your entire family...For the first step, there is no need for research or technology, he noted, just have simple but powerful conversations with family members. "Did you know that only 25 percent of members of the Church worldwide have the names of all of their parents, grandparents and great-grandparents in the Family Tree [of FamilySearch.org]? Did you know that only 2 percent of recent converts worldwide have the names of these same family members in the Family Tree?...That means more than 100 million four-generation ancestors of Church members have not yet been gathered in the Family Tree [equating to more than a half-billion ordinances waiting to be performed]...The time is here to rescue our family and help others in our wards and stakes in the rescue of their families," he said. "We are asking all of you to begin to shepherd this rescue now."

[Elder Renlund, Rootstech 2018](#) "New converts begin their lifelong pursuit of family history the same way that multigenerational families have always started family history work, by talking to living family members and recording what they remember."

See his "Gumdrop Story" [one chopstick picking them up won't work] - "One way members and missionaries come together in the work of salvation is in temple and family history work.

"Whether living or dead, individuals who do not harden their hearts will be saved in the kingdom of God. Members and missionaries work together, like the chopsticks to accomplish this work."

"New converts who participate in temple and family history work are **retained at a higher rate**...Those who are new and tender in the gospel include 12-year-old youth and new converts...As they are focused on temple and family history work, more will remain active, more will be protected when the storms and fierce winds strike."

"We invite all new converts and new 12-year-olds to discover and gather their families and become active participants in the plan of salvation. We desire to involve 11-year-old children and even younger children in family history work and encourage them to qualify for a limited-use temple recommend when they turn 12 years old...Thus, they can and are encouraged to perform proxy baptisms in temples whenever and wherever possible. Involvement of 12-year-olds and new converts will have a "halo effect" on all who help...Faith in the Savior of family and friends who help will increase."

Citing the words from President [Russell M. Nelson](#) when he addressed the membership of the Church from the Salt Lake Temple on January 16, Elder Renlund said, "We encourage everyone to get on the covenant path as soon as possible—even, especially, when they are new and tender in the gospel—and then **stay focused on the blessings of the temple.**"

This encouragement, Elder Renlund emphasized, is because the data are incontrovertible that young men who participate in temple and family history work have a higher rate of being ordained elders and going on missions.

“But how can we accomplish this? Ward temple and family history consultants provide the answer.” He quoted the statement of President Russell M. Nelson given at RootsTech 2017 - [Open the Heavens Through Temple and Family History Work](#) (see more from this presentation below): “If I were a missionary today, my two best friends would be the **ward mission leader and the ward temple and family history consultant.**” Elder Renlund **added**, “If I were a bishop, Primary leader, youth leader, parent, or anyone else who loves a child and wants to see him or her stay on the covenant path with the end in mind, one of my best friends would be the ward temple and family history consultant.” Similarly, if he were a bishop and wanted to help **new converts** stay on the covenant path, his best friends would include the ward mission leader and ward temple and family history consultant.

Missionary, Family History, and Temple Work - Elder David A. Bednar Some individuals may wonder how both preaching the gospel *and* seeking after our dead can be simultaneously the greatest duties and responsibilities God has placed upon His children. My purpose is to suggest that these teachings highlight the unity and oneness of the latter-day work of salvation. **Missionary work and family history and temple work are complementary and interrelated aspects of one great work**, “that in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him” ([Ephesians 1:10](#)).

...the spirit of Elijah is central in and vital to the work of proclaiming the gospel. Perhaps the Lord was emphasizing this truth in the very sequence of events that occurred as the fulness of the gospel was restored to the earth in these latter days.

...“Behold, I will reveal unto you the Priesthood, by the hand of Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. ... And he shall plant in the hearts of the children the promises made to the fathers, and the hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers. If it were not so, the whole earth would be utterly wasted at his coming” ([Joseph Smith—History 1:38–39](#)).

Moroni’s instructions to the young prophet ultimately included two primary themes: (1) the Book of Mormon and (2) the **words of Malachi** foretelling the role of Elijah in the restoration “of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began” ([Acts 3:21](#)). Thus, the introductory events of the Restoration revealed a correct understanding of the Godhead, established the reality of continuing revelation, emphasized the importance of the Book of Mormon, and **anticipated the work of salvation and exaltation for both the living and the dead.**

The time has come for us to capitalize more effectively on the potent combination of the mighty change of heart, made possible primarily by the spiritual power of the Book of Mormon, and the turning of hearts to the fathers, accomplished through the spirit of Elijah. A yearning for connection to our past can prepare an individual to receive the virtue of the word of God and fortify his or her faith. A heart turning to the fathers uniquely helps an individual withstand the influence of the adversary and **strengthen conversion.**

I now want to identify four principles about the spiritual power that results from changing and turning hearts.

1. **Hearts and conversion.** Turning to the fathers awakens and prepares a heart for the mighty change. Thus, the spirit of Elijah helps in conversion.
Watch the third video to view a story demonstrating this principle.
2. **Hearts and retention.** Turning to the fathers sustains and strengthens hearts that have experienced the mighty change. Thus, the spirit of Elijah helps in retaining new converts.
Watch the fourth video to view a story demonstrating this principle.

3. **Hearts and reactivation.** Turning to the fathers softens a heart that has become hardened after experiencing the mighty change. Thus, the spirit of Elijah is key in reactivation.
Watch the fifth video to view a story demonstrating this principle.

4. **Hearts and valiant missionaries.** A missionary who has experienced both the mighty change and the turning of the heart will be a more converted, consecrated, and valiant servant.

With a rapidly expanding and better-prepared missionary force, we simply cannot rely exclusively on past proselyting successes to determine our course and methods for the future. The Lord has inspired technologies and tools that enable us to benefit from the oneness of missionary work and temple and family history work more than at any previous time in this dispensation. And it is no coincidence that these innovations have come forth at precisely the time they are so needed to advance missionary work all over the earth. The Lord's work is one majestic work focused upon hearts that change and turn, on sacred covenants, and upon the power of godliness manifested through priesthood ordinances.

Preaching the gospel and seeking after our dead are complementary parts of one great work—a labor of love intended to change, turn, and purify the hearts of honest seekers of truth. **The artificial boundary line we so often place between missionary work and temple and family history work is being erased; this is one great work of salvation.**⁶

Can we begin to understand the role of temple and family history work in helping an investigator or a less-active member obtain a deeper understanding of the plan of salvation? Do we recognize that one of the greatest influences on convert retention is the spirit of Elijah? Can we more fully appreciate the importance of heart-turning moments occasioned by the sharing of family stories as a means of finding people to teach by both members and missionaries? Can we help those we serve access more often the powers of godliness by participating worthily in ordinances such as the sacrament and baptisms and confirmations for the dead?

May you see clearly, hear unmistakably, and ever remember the importance of your service in the Lord's work of changing, turning, and purifying hearts.

President Eyring **"Gathering the Family of God,"** Ensign or Liahona May 2017

"I bear testimony that Elijah did come. The hearts of the children—of you and me—have turned to our fathers, our ancestors. The affection you feel for your ancestors is part of the fulfillment of that prophecy. It is deeply seated in your sense of who you are. But it has to do with more than just inherited DNA ... to gather and unite God's family requires more than just warm feelings. **It requires sacred covenants made in connection with priesthood ordinances.** Many of your ancestors did not receive those ordinances. But in the providence of God, you did. And God knew that you would feel drawn to your ancestors in love and that you would have the technology necessary to identify them. He also knew that you would live in a time when **access to holy temples**, where the ordinances can be performed, would be greater than ever in history. And He knew that **He could trust you to accomplish this work in behalf of your ancestors.**

"The work of salvation to be accomplished in these last days is grand, vast, essential, and urgent. How grateful each of us should be for the blessings and responsibilities of living in this specific season of the final dispensation. How humble we should be knowing that "unto whom much is given much is required" (D&C 82:3). Preaching the gospel and seeking after our dead are complementary parts of one great work—a labor of love intended to change, turn, and purify the hearts of honest seekers of truth. The artificial boundary line we so often place between missionary work and temple and family history work is being erased; this is one great work of salvation." (David A. Bednar, **Missionary, Family History, and Temple Work**)

RootsTech Family Discovery Day—Opening Session 2017 - Open the Heavens Through Temple and Family History Work **President and Sister Nelson.** See this short **video clip** (*A Sacrifice of Time*) or read or watch the full talk using the above link (reviewed **here**).

President Nelson: "I invite you prayerfully to consider what kind of sacrifice, and preferably a sacrifice of time, you can make to do more family history and temple work this year. Brothers and sisters, together we are engaged in the work of Almighty God. He lives. Jesus is the Christ. This is His Church. We are His covenant children. He can count on us."

This presentation includes: [A Visit from Father](#) In this video, President Nelson recounts a personal family history story that bears testimony of the importance of temple and family history work, and how missionary work is being accomplished in the spirit world (also [see D&C 138](#)).

President Nelson: I like to tell them [missionaries around the world] that if I were a missionary today, my two best friends in the ward or branch in which I would be serving would be the ward mission leader and the ward temple and family history consultant.

People have an inborn desire to know something about their ancestors. That becomes a natural opportunity for our missionaries. As the missionaries learn to love the people they are contacting, missionaries will naturally ask about their families. "Are your parents living? What about your grandparents, are they living? Do you know your four grandparents?" Conversations flow easily when those who are drawn to speak with the missionaries are invited to talk about the people that they love.

At that point it can be very natural for the missionaries to ask, "Do you know any of your great-grandparents? Do you know their names?" The probability is that they will not know the names of all eight of their great-grandparents. Then the missionaries can make this suggestion: "I have a friend at our Church who can help us. If we could find the names of some or maybe even all of your great-grandparents, would it be worth a couple of hours of your time to find out who your great-grandparents are?" That friend at church, of course, is the ward temple and family history consultant. You know, Wendy, I think that what you often tell the missionaries is equally important. You broaden their understanding of missionary work. You offer them an eternal perspective.

Sister Nelson: "I invite the missionaries to picture in their mind's eye when they are teaching investigators at least 100 more people in the room. "Those 100 people are, of course, the ancestors of the investigators and the ancestors of the missionaries."

It is my testimony that however fabulous your life is right now, or however discouraging and heartbreaking it may be, your involvement in family history and temple work will make it better. What do you need in your life right now? More love? More joy? More self-mastery? More peace? More meaningful moments? More of a feeling that you're making a difference? More fun? Could you use more answers to your soul-searching questions? More heart-to-heart connections with others? More understanding of what you are reading in the scriptures? More ability to love and to forgive? How about more ability to pray with power? More inspiration and creative ideas for your work and other projects? More time for what really matters?

My dear brothers and sisters, I entreat you to **make a sacrifice of time** to the Lord by increasing the time you spend doing temple and family history work, and then watch what happens. It is my testimony that when we show the Lord we are serious about helping our ancestors, the heavens will open and we will receive all that we need. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #9 - Family History Activities

Angelle

Family History Skill	Application for Missionaries	In-class Exercise or Activity	After-class Assignment	Notes
Family History Activities - 1. Fun, free, and beneficial on so many levels!	When serving: Finding, Activation, and Retention Tool Family history activities: are not only fun and uniting, but they can be a catalyst for involvement in (and addition to) this essential and rewarding work to gather Israel on both sides of the veil! Family history activities can continually bless missionaries personally and assist them in helping others to also receive the joy and blessings in store "The temple is the house of the Lord. The basis for every temple ordinance and covenant . . . is the Atonement of Jesus Christ. Every activity, every lesson, all we do in the Church, point to the Lord and His	<u>All About Me</u> - use <u>Melanie's FS account</u> and then switch the year to another teacher or to the year a student's great-grandparent was born - have three or four categories to suggest (some work better than others)	Enjoy teaching your family what you learned in this class today, and playing games together that are tailored to your family. Who in your family needs to sign up for a FamilySearch account and fill in four generations? You can help them! What will you do to increase your participation in family history?	Missions with similar limitations Article about Benefits See this blog post also

	holy house." President Russell M. Nelson Personal Preparation for Temple Blessings Activities help Inter-missionaries learn and love family history which will benefit them before, during, and after their missions. Today: Hear Him President Nelson April General Conference 2020 "While worshipping in the temple is presently not possible, I invite you to increase your participation in family history, including family history research and indexing. I promise that as you increase your time in temple and family history work, you will increase and improve your ability to hear Him."			
2. Making Family History more enjoyable (not intimidating or boring) - a fun way to discover, gather, and connect	Full-time missionaries can only open FamilySearch, so while serving, those you are helping can be learning about The Family History	Explore together while being taught. Video: Activities Overview from The Family History Guide Could look over The	Pick three activities that you could use with investigators (no FamilySearch account needed, not involving temple work, simple) and practice using them	Four Places - Add links to syllabus See all the activities in FamilySearch Discovery (once you sign into

--where to find activities	Guide and the BYU FH Tech Lab and open them on their own devices.	Family History Guide Youtube Activities playlist - youtube icon is on the homepage of TFHG	with your family Share what you have learned with your family. Consider showing some of the activity videos from The Family History Guide (Youtube icon on home page)	yourFS account you will see more including temple activities) See The Family History Guide index of activities here or also see tabs for selecting activities for families, individuals, youth, and children The Family History Guide Come, Follow Me Companion. This site contains temple and family history ideas to go with the lessons each week. BYU Family History Tech Lab - Note: need 4 gens to participate
3. Selecting Activities Selecting FamilySearch Activities Where Am I From? All About Me Compare-A-Face Record-My-Story Picture My Heritage In-Home Activities (these activities	What is the situation? Use "choice spinner" for them to select option: • Meeting contacts • Teaching investigators • Helping families become	Each break-out group is assigned a situation (perhaps they could choose) . Select a few activities that would work well for the purpose. Share when back in main class.	I love the 21-day challenge idea. Invitation: Invite missionaries to take 21-day challenge during quarantine period. There is a list of 50 "Five-Minute" ideas on the "Family" tab in TFHG Activities. Five-Minute Ideas for	Mike Sandberg's experience traveling for FamilySearch to third world countries - limited or no internet and very out-of-date computers/devices. Where to begin? See In-Home Activities

can be enjoyed with or without internet and without four generations on FamilySearch - but they have an option to use internet also)) About Me Activities to help you discover who you are. My Family Activities to help you discover your family, both the living and those who have passed on. The Temple Activities to help you prepare to go to the temple. Discovery/Research Activities New Campaign My Ancestors' Temples Fun with your Fan Chart, Timeline, and memories - create your own games Indexing activities 10 Ways To Discover, Gather, and Share Ancestor Stories (note: audio recording stories is a great activity!) Selecting activities for families from	activated and more unified • Preparing 11-year-olds for the temple • Preparing others to take names to the temple • Retention - temple prep activities and all other activities that fit the situation • If asked to help with a ward activity (see notes) • Other situations?		Latter-day Saints This doc has the links to Sister Nelson's presentation(and videos) in which she gives the backstory to the challenge, the miracles that happened for a ward, and talks about help from the other side. The 21-day Challenge	on FamilySearch and activities with an *asterisk on The Family History Guide President and Sister Nelson offered the invitation to make temple and family history work more a part of our lives in an address given at Rootstech 2017 (see a clip here). Open the Heavens Through Temple and Family History Work Activities are a great place to start! Idea for a ward - perhaps this could be presented to leaders if missionaries are asked to attend ward council. This is a sample of how to encourage a ward to do temple and family history work and make it a habit. The idea is from Sister Nelson, and all the links to her talk are in this document (see quote below): The
--	---	--	--	---

The Family History Guide Anytime Activities and Games Plan-ahead Activities Making Family History Documenting the Past Social Media Activities Service Activities Activities for Research Latter-day Saint Activities Five-Minute Ideas for Latter-day Saints Also see tabs for selecting activities for individuals, youth, and children from The Family History Guide BYU Family History Tech Lab (need four generations on FamilySearch for most of these) Play Geneopardy Wheel of Family Fortune				21-day Challenge and "Five-minute" Family History Activity Ideas A shorter "stand-alone" list is included in the "Family" Section of The Family History Guide Activities: Five-Minute Ideas for Latter-day Saints See Sister Compton's story (one of the experiences shared in the link above (21-day challenge - she exemplifies how committing to five minutes a day encouraged her to open a FamilySearch email and making a discovery) The idea of making a habit by doing family history for 21 days straight is great for families and individuals (or companionships if approved by the mission president)
--	--	--	--	---

Ancestor Games Geneagraphy Record Quest Reverse Indexing Research RelativeFinder Virtual Pedigree Descendancy Explorer Tree Sweeper Visual Pedigree Pie One Page Genealogy Family Calendar				
Conclusion - Wrap-up	Inter-Missionaries leave this class excited to do family history activities, use them as a tool, teach others to enjoy and learn from them, create more time to do them now and in the future!	Video: Detective Discovery Day - (TFHG - go live) Backstory - While these kids were filming this video, they got a call that their great-grandfather whose life they were exploring was in the hospital. He passed away that night.		Gather Israel on both sides of the veil - meet people where they are Elder Renlund's list of promises - what we want for all those we know and those we meet!

Family History: Gathering Israel on Both Sides of the Veil

Class #10 - Preach My Gospel

Family History Skill	Application for Missionaries	In-class Exercise or Activity	After-class Assignment	Notes
1. Strengthen your personal	A missionary who has experienced both the	Discussion: As you discover/meet		One great Work Elder

testimony of temple and family history work	mighty change and the turning of the heart will be a more converted, consecrated, and valiant servant. Bednar video Preach My Gospel - what do missionaries preach? The plan of salvation (happiness) is all about eternal families) President Packer “The Shield of Faith” The ultimate purpose of all we teach is to unite parents and children in faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, that they are happy at home, sealed in an eternal marriage, linked to their generations, and assured of exaltation in the presence of our Heavenly Father.	all kinds of family situations on your mission, what are some issues you might face or have faced when teaching about eternal families? How can your personal conviction and experiences help you in these situations? • Unmarried person • Person abused by family • Divorced person • Married to an inactive member others?		Bednar - Missionary, Family History, and Temple Work Turning hearts The Spirit of Elijah helps in conversion
2. Finding ancestor stories	Doing personal family history work by discovering, gathering, and connecting with ancestors prepares missionaries to teach about eternal families.	10 Ways To Discover, Gather, and Share Ancestor Stories Student who shared on Monday - Amber (inspired by her ancestor) Discuss the art of “Consumable” (shorter and to the point) story-telling and sharing with conviction	Find more inspiring ancestor stories. Do other family history work and temple work when possible.	Pres. Nelson - can’t go to temple so do fh work during pandemic (see quote from last class) - this counts! Research first converts in each of your family lines. Sometimes

		from your heart Breakout Explore ways of finding a personal story from your family - Look through the document “10 Ways...” together as a group. Select one story a group member knows (or finds during this breakout session) to be shared after in class. Note: the doc also has links to ways to find stories from church history		this is you! Early missionary site etc. FamilySearch Discovery Consumable story-telling - leave out unimportant details, give the important points - 3-4 paragraphs
3. Learning to share ancestor stories to teach gospel principles	Use personal stories (family history stories when applicable) to illustrate gospel topics in teaching - especially about eternal families. Have stories ready - bring them along with a four generation chart with you on your mission Can order and fill out with your pedigree and stories of four generations to take on your mission My Family Booklet PMG Family history or genealogy provides	One story can be shared from each group and then class members can suggest possible applications to gospel principles in the chat box More stories can be shared if time allows.	Practice the art of “Consumable” story-telling and sharing with conviction link One idea is to make long stories consumable and upload a written copy of the shorter version to FamilySearch Read or tell stories using the audio feature of the Memories app or “Record My Story” on Family Search to preserve and share them on	Prophetic priorities - gathering Israel Personal testimony - bearwitness of gospel principles using personal stories PMG topics - personal or family history stories and suggestions for teaching (Stories can be replaced with the missionary’s

	another way you can find people to teach		FamilySearch. Consider sharing stories on social media to public or family groups or particular people, Ideas and Help for Using Social Media – “The New Language of Family History” If you have a photo - you can audio record a story about it (see Add Audio to Pictures on FamilySearch.org)	personal stories) PMG Chapter Three - Scripture and story/example suggestions to practice teaching 40 Gospel Principles Read more here: LDS Mission Prep by Scott and Angelle Anderson From Preach My Gospel Talk to people about their families. Help them see how the restored gospel can be a blessing to their families. Offer to help them find the names of grandparents, great-grandparents, or other ancestors. (see more in the resource section below)
Make Family History a part of your life- Gathering Israel on both sides of the veil is what you were sent here to do!	Think of it! Of all the people who have ever lived on planet earth, we are the ones who get to participate in this final, great gathering event. How exciting is that! Our			Continually partake of the promises: Temple and Family History Work: Sealing and Healing by Elder Renlund

	Heavenly Father has reserved many of His most noble spirits—perhaps, I might say, His finest team—for this final phase. Those noble spirits—those finest players, those heroes—are you! I testify that the gathering is now, and it is real. <u>President Nelson: Hope Of Israel</u>			by making temple and family history work part of your life.
--	---	--	--	--

Prep Assignment: Share activities that you did with your family

Post Assignment: Make Temple and Family history work part of your life!

Additional Resources:

From Preach My Gospel Talk to people about their families. Help them see how the restored gospel can be a blessing to their families.

Offer to help them find the names of grandparents, great-grandparents, or other ancestors. Enlist the help of ward temple and family history consultants..

Family History and Temple Ordinances

Family history or genealogy provides another way you can find people to teach. Family history is now one of the most widespread hobbies in the world. What we sometimes refer to as the spirit of Elijah is “the distinctive influence of the Holy Ghost [that] draws people to identify, document, and cherish their ancestors and family members—both past and present” (David A. Bednar, “The Hearts of the Children Shall Turn,” Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2011, 25; see also Russell M. Nelson, “A New Harvest Time,” Ensign, May 1998, 34). Throughout the world, the Spirit is influencing millions of people to search for their ancestors. People can often feel the Spirit as they talk about families. Many want a stronger connection with their extended family. This can lead to a desire to find a connection and identity as part of God’s family. Ancestors eager for their ordinances are praying for their posterity on earth to accept your teachings and perform those ordinances vicariously for them in the temple.

Read more on this same page from Preach My Gospel

A few of these resources may already be on Class #3

Build testimony by finding [early missionaries in your Family Tree](#).

[10 Ways to Discover, Gather, and Share Ancestor Stories](#) (and a lot of other ideas for making connections)

From THFG: [FamilySearch Memories](#)

If you are not able to locate ancestor stories - share Your own personal stories and stories that inspire them. Some examples are found [here](#), as well as in [this article](#)

Inspiring Stories: [How Rare A Possession](#), [Pioneer Trek Stories](#), [Pioneer Stories of Faith](#),

See also: [Discover Pioneer Relatives](#), [Women of Faith](#), [Relatives in Nauvoo](#), and [Missionary Database](#)

[Church History Tells of Extraordinary Pioneer Youth."](#)

[FamilySearch Blog](#)

Research first converts in each line - what is the story?