Family History

Lesson #1

Family History Intro. & Plan

What is Family History?

- Genealogy: Names, life events, places, and dates.

- Family History: More comprehensive, including stories, anecdotes, photographs, and other interesting details about our ancestors. It is about getting to know them!

- What does Family History mean to us as members of the church?

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord:

And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

(Malachi 4:5-6)

Elijah Appearing in the Kirtland Temple, by Dan Lewis, © 2007 Dan Lewis

Behold, the great day of the Lord is at hand…Let us, therefore, as a church and a people, and as Latter-day Saints, offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness; and let us present in his holy temple, when it is finished, a book containing the records of our dead, which shall be worthy of all acceptation.
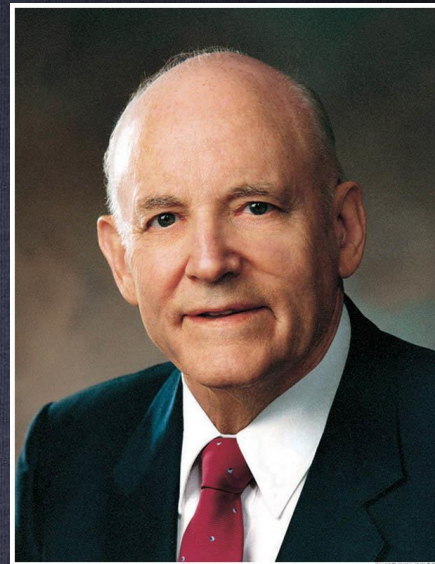
(D&C 128:24)

Elijah Appearing in the Kirtland Temple, by Dan Lewis, © 2007 Dan Lewis

"I have learned that those who engage in family history research and then perform the temple ordinance work for those whose names they have found will know the additional joy of receiving both halves of the blessing."

- Howard W. Hunter, "A Temple-Motivated People," Ensign, Feb. 1995

"Thousands of our faithful people seldom go to the temple, and of those who do go, most are not working on their own ancestral lines. They are not saving their own dead. They seem to believe they are fulfilling their responsibilities by merely attending the temple occasionally. This is simply not so. We all must learn to save <u>our</u> <u>own</u> dead. We must <u>properly</u> identify them so that we can then perform the work for them in the temples …"
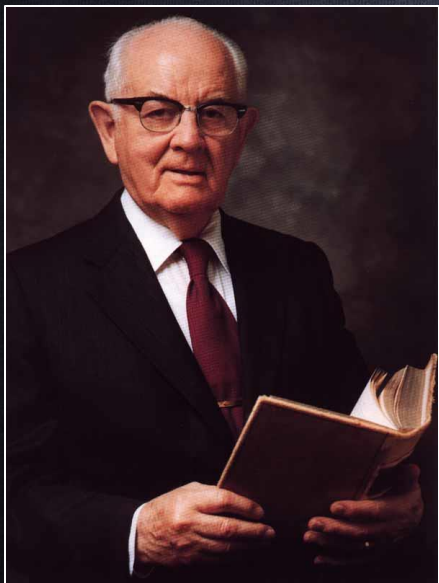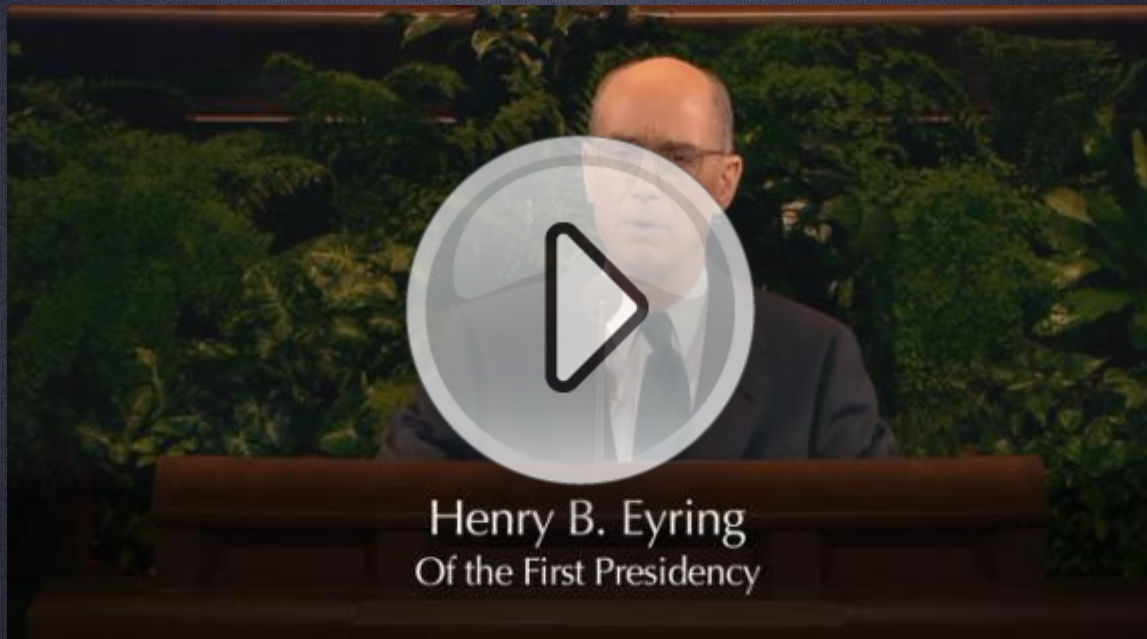
- Spencer W. Kimball, Regional Representatives Seminar, Sept. 30, 1976

Why Do We Do Temple Work?

Henry B. Eyring
Of the First Presidency

Video: 1m 55s

Family History Challenges

- In the past, our biggest challenge in doing family history and temple work, has been the duplication of effort and ordinances.

- New tools have and will continue to be developed to help reduce duplication and improve collaboration.

FamilySearch

Family History Challenges

- The church has developed a Family History website, FamilySearch.org, where we can both search for records and organize our research.

- Building on these new innovations, and to simplify your efforts, the Gilbert Higley Stake has developed a process to help you with your family history experiences.

Success Through Organization

- With Family History, like all large projects, it is best to be organized and break the project into small, manageable tasks.

- This can be accomplished be creating a simple checklist and by stepping through the tasks listed on it.

Success Through Organization

Being organized will allow you to:

1. See frequent successes.

2. Always know what you are working on & what you need to do next.

3. Have small tasks that you can accomplish even when you don't have much time to invest.

4. Delegate tasks to other family members without duplicating work.

5. Pick up right where you left off, even if it has been months or years since you last got to work on Family History.

Lets

Get

Organized!

Print Pedigree and Fan Charts

- Go to Createfan.com

- Login using your FamilySearch.org Credentials

- Print a 4 and 9 Generation

  Fan Chart.

Print Pedigree and Fan Charts

- While still at Createfan.com…

- Print a 4 and 9 Generation Pedigree Chart

Family History Guide

- Go to iwillprepare.com and click on "Family History".

- Print and Read the 2 page Family History Guide.

Family History Checklist

- Print the Family History Checklist.

Family History Research Log

- Print the Family History Research Log.

Family History Research Log

Page ___ of ___

Research #
From Checklist

Ancestors Name and Dates ex. John Doe (1776-1835)

Researcher's Name (Your Name)

Date	Purpose (Seeking What?)	Source (Address, URL, Book Name and Page #, Publication Name, etc...)	Results

Family History Checklist

- Take the name in position #1 on the pedigree chart and write it on line #1 on the Checklist.

- Continue for all names

Family History Checklist

Researcher: _____ Bill Doe
Your Name

	Names from Pedigree Chart	FamilySearch.org - Add Vital Records			FamilySearch.org - Connections/Corrections			LDS Ordinances					
	Ancestor's Name	Birth or Christening	Marriage	Death or Burial	Merge Duplicates	Edit Information	Relationships Established						
X	1 John Doe	2/12/2013	2/12/2013	4/18/2013	4/20/2013	4/20/2013	4/20/2013	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
☐	2 Jane Doe	6/2/2013	6/8/2013	9/5/2013	9/17/2013			B	C	I	E	SP	SS
☐	3 _____							B	C	I	E	SP	SS
☐	4 _____							B	C	I	E	SP	SS

Family History Checklist

- The checklist will guide you in what work needs to be completed for each ancestor…so you know the work is done.

- When you are done with each task, mark the date in the corresponding box. Once all are done, place an "X" to the left of the name.

- The checklist allows you to share work with others.

Family History Research Log

- Keep track of the research you do by filling out a research log for each ancestor (Some may need multiple pages).

- The log keeps track of what you are looking for, where you are looking and the results.

- The log helps you remember where you looked so you don't repeat it later and waste time.

Create a Binder

- Place your Checklist, Pedigree Charts, Fan Charts, Research Logs and Family History Guide into a 3-ring binder.

- This will keep you organized.

- Some may prefer a digital copy on a flash drive.

Doe
Family History

What is Documentation?

- Documentation or sources are records used to identify your ancestors.

- Documentation of key life events such as Birth, Marriage and Death are considered "Vital Documentation".

- Other records such as census records, family histories, deeds, etc…, are considered secondary records.

- When documentation is attached to your ancestor's record, you can be sure you have identified the correct person.

Documentation. Why is it important?

- Documents and sources provide positive identification.

- There are many Walter Shermans, but only <u>one</u> born in Hardy County, WV. on March 27, 1881 who later married Bertha Septema Coons on April 8, 1908 at Tombstone Arizona and who died at Pomerene, Arizona on May 2, 1934.

- Good sources will assure accurate merging of records. You will be far less likely to merge the record of one Walter Sherman with another of the same name (but unrelated).

Documentation. Why is it important?

- The prevention of repeated temple ordinances is a second major goal of family history. By precisely identifying our ancestors we will prevent well-meaning members from doing ordinance work over and over again.

- Good sources and documents form the basis for family history. In finding the historical references of our ancestors lives, we get to know them and are able to understand them and empathize with them. From this understanding we can develop a biographical sketch to pass on to future generations.
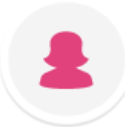
Merging Duplicates

Merge Persons

Switch Positions

Georgina Taylor
27S7-NBG
8 June 1863 – 22 August 1943

Georgina Taylor
LDS1-PF5
9 June 1865 – 1943

Georgina Taylor and information remaining in this column are deleted at the end of the merge process.

Life Sketch | Vitals | Other | Family | Sources

Life Sketch

Vital Information
Open Details

Merging Duplicates

- It is not uncommon for multiple records to be created for the same person.

- Temple ordinances can often be done many times for an ancestor because multiple records exist.

- Merging duplicate records before printing a Family Ordinance Request (FOR) and taking the name to the temple is important to avoid ordinance duplication.

Edit Other Information

- Other Information can be created manually or through the importation of data from older databases.

- Make sure the data is correct and delete or change incorrect information.

Establish Relationships

- With the documentation you have found for your ancestor, you might have the names of his/her parents or some great clues to help you find them.

- If so add them to your family tree.
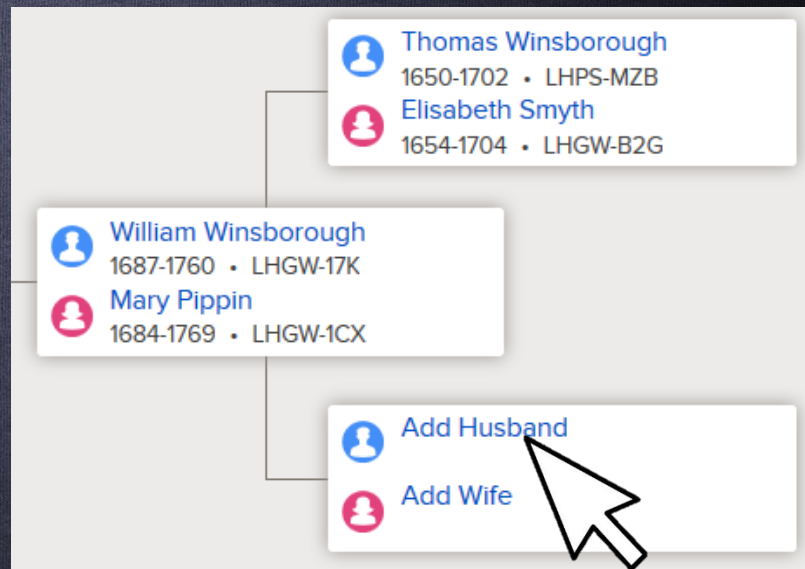
- Once you have found & added vital documents to your ancestor's record, merged duplicate records, edited other info, and established relationships, you are ready to print a Family Ordinance Request (FOR) & take the name to the temple.

- By now, you probably know a lot about this relative which will make your temple experience more special.

- You can feel confident that the research is done right, the ordinances are being done for the first time and will not be duplicated.

Hands-On!

- Login and explore familysearch.org.
- Practice the basic navigation of the site
  - Family Tree
  - Person View
  - Memories
  - Ordinances

Homework:

1. Go to Createfan.com

   1. Print 4 & 9 Generation Fan Charts and Pedigrees.

2. Go to iwillprepare.com > Family History

   1. Print and read Family History Guide

   2. Print Checklist & Research Log.

   3. Fill out names on checklist from Pedigree.

3. Assemble your Binder