

# *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)



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 acceptance.

(D&C 128:24)

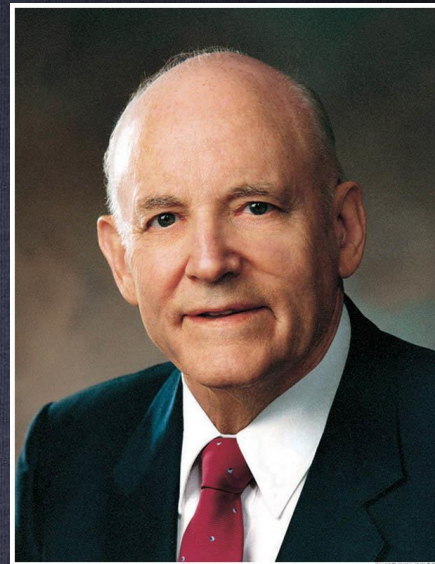


Elijah Appearing in the Kirtland Temple, by Dan Lewis, © 2007 Dan Lewis





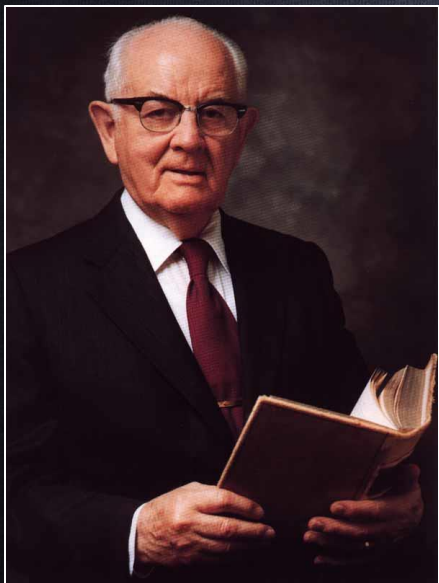
“I have learned that those who engage in family history research and then perform the temple ordinance work for those whose names they have found will know the additional joy of receiving both halves of the blessing.”



- 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 our own dead. We must properly identify them so that we can then perform the work for them in the temples ...”

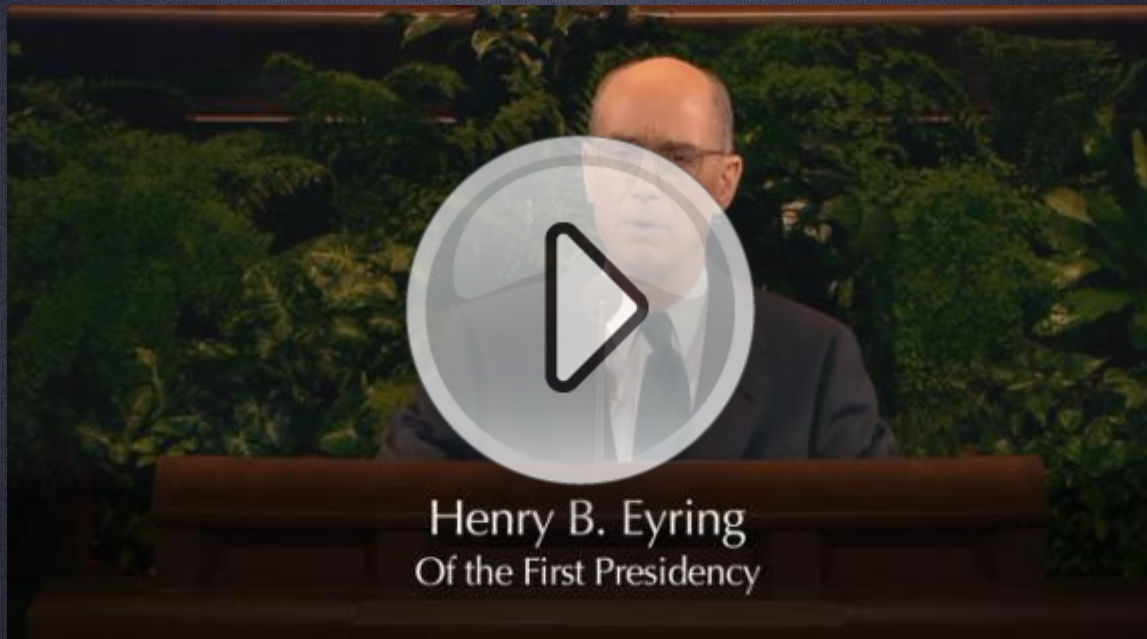


- Spencer W. Kimball, Regional Representatives Seminar, Sept. 30, 1976





# Why Do We Do Temple Work?



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.







# Family History Challenges

- The church has developed a Family History website, [FamilySearch.org](http://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 by 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!

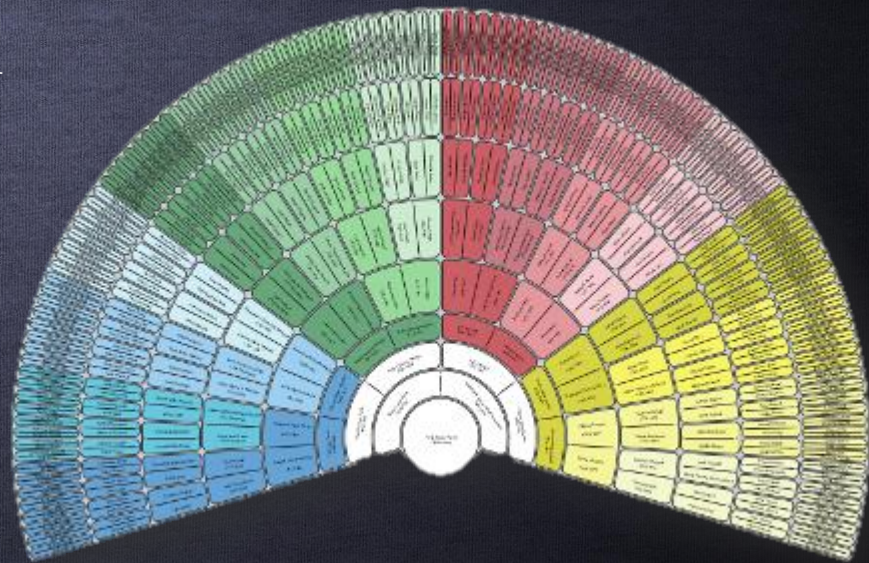






# Print Pedigree and Fan Charts

- Go to [Createfan.com](https://createfan.com)
- Login using your [FamilySearch.org](https://familysearch.org) Credentials
- Print a 4 and 9 Generation Fan Chart.





- While still at Createfan.com...
- Print a 4 and 9 Generation Pedigree Chart


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# Family History Guide


- Go to [iwillprepare.com](http://iwillprepare.com) and click on “Family History”.
- Print and Read the 2 page Family History Guide.



## Guide to Family History

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 acceptance. (D&C 128:24)

One might say that “there is nothing new in history”. That certainly isn’t the case when it comes to Family History. Over the years, advancements in technology have dramatically changed the way we do genealogy; and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. We have learned from our mistakes and have developed new tools and processes to help us be successful. Today’s search tools are not like they used to be. The church is looking to the, digital savvy, younger generations to lead the charge in today’s family history efforts. For years, our goal was to simply find names to take to the temple. This direction, without the necessary checks in place, led to many names being taken to the temple more than once. (I have a relative that was submitted 208 times). While taking names to the Temple is still important, our primary focus is now to document the work we do. For each ancestor, we want to attach a birth, marriage and death record. This way, we can be sure there is only one record created for each person and we can be sure where they fit in Adam and Eve’s Family Tree.



As with all large projects, it is best to be organized and break that project into small, manageable tasks. This can be accomplished by creating a simple checklist and by stepping through the tasks listed on it. With the checklist you will:

See frequent successes. 2) Always know what you are working on and 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) Be able to 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.

Here is how it works:

1. If you are LDS, and you don’t already have one, go to [www.lds.org](http://www.lds.org) and setup an LDS Account. You will need your membership ID from your temple recommend or your ward clerk. If you are not LDS, setup a free account at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org).
2. Go to [createfan.com](http://createfan.com) and login using your [lds.org/familysearch](http://lds.org/familysearch) account. Print out a 4 and 9 generation pedigree chart and fan chart starting with you.
3. Make a copy of the attached checklist, take the name in position 1 on the pedigree chart and enter it on line 1 of the checklist. Repeat for all the names on the pedigree chart. If you have blanks in various positions on your pedigree chart, leave the corresponding position blank on your checklist.
4. Vital Record Documentation: The saying goes: “Genealogy without sources is just hearsay”. Find birth, marriage and death documentation for each person on your checklist. If you have a paper copy of your document, you can scan it into a .JPG, .JPG or .PNG format and then upload these records to [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org) and attach them to your ancestor’s record in Family Tree. Enter the date you completed the task on your checklist.
5. As you search for vital records for your ancestors, you may want to use the attached research log. Add the Research # from the checklist as well as the ancestor’s name on the top of the form. As you search websites, books, microfiche from the Family History Center, etc., you can keep track of search locations and results. This will help keep you on track and prevent searching in places you have already been to.
6. Merge Duplicates: In the tree view at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org), click on each person and then click

Created By: Jon Sherman [www.iwillprepare.com/family\\_history.htm](http://www.iwillprepare.com/family_history.htm) Version: 2014-03



# Family History Checklist

- Print the Family History Checklist.

Family History Checklist

Researcher: Bill Doe

Your Name

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





# Family History Research Log

- Print the Family History Research Log.

Research #  
From Checklist

Family History Research Log

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Researcher's Name (Your Name)

Page  
\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

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: <u>Bill Doe</u>									
				Your Name									
Names from Pedigree Chart		FamilySearch.org - Add Vital Records			FamilySearch.org - Connections/Corrections								
Ancestor's Name		Birth or Christening	Marriage	Death or Burial	Merge Duplicates	Edit Information	Relationships Established	LDS Ordinances					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 John Doe	2/12/2013	2/12/2013	4/18/2013	4/20/2013	4/20/2013	4/20/2013	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Jane Doe	6/2/2013	6/8/2013	9/5/2013	9/17/2013			B	C	I	E	SP	SS
<input type="checkbox"/>	3							B	C	I	E	SP	SS
<input type="checkbox"/>	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.





# 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 one 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.





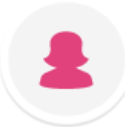
# Merging Duplicates

## Merge Persons

[Switch Positions](#)



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



**Georgina Taylor**  
LDS1-PF5  
9 June 1865 – 1943

[Life Sketch](#) | [Vitals](#) | [Other](#) | [Family](#) | [Sources](#)

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

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.

The screenshot shows a user profile page with two main sections: 'Vital Information' and 'Other Information'. A large red arrow points from the right side of the page to the 'Vital Information' section, and another red arrow points from the right side to the 'Other Information' section.

**Vital Information**  
[Open Details](#)

Name  
Lebbeus Thaddeus Coons

Gender  
[Male](#)

Birth  
13 May 1811  
Plymouth, Chenango, New York, United States

Christening  
[+ Add](#)

Death  
7 July 1872  
Richfield, Sevier, Utah, United States

Burial  
9 July 1872  
Richfield City Cemetery, Richfield, Sevier, Utah, United States

**Other Information**  
[Open Details](#) | [+ Add](#)

Alternate Name  
[Birth Name](#)  
Libbeus Thads. Coons

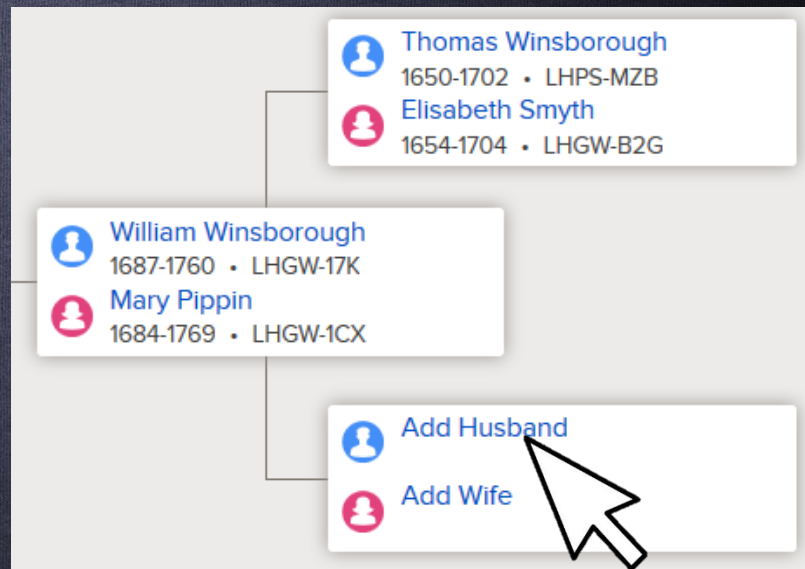
[Birth Name](#)  
Lebbeus Thaddeus Coons ; Sr.

[Birth Name](#)



# 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.







# LDS Ordinances

- 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](https://familysearch.org).
- Practice the basic navigation of the site
  - Family Tree
  - Person View
  - Memories
  - Ordinances





# Homework:

1. Go to [Createfan.com](http://Createfan.com)
  1. Print 4 & 9 Generation Fan Charts and Pedigrees.
2. Go to [iwillprepare.com](http://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

