

Doctrinal References

D&C 2:1 (see verses 1–3) “Behold, I will reveal unto you the Priesthood, by the hand of Elijah.”

D&C 110:13–16 Elijah restores sealing keys to the Prophet Joseph.

D&C 128:22 (see verses 18, 22) “The prisoners shall go free.”

Ephesians 1:10 “Gather together in one all things in Christ.”

Handbook 2: Administering the Church (2010), 5.4

First Presidency letters from February 29, 2012, and October 8, 2012

Questions for Members

- How have you or your family members been blessed by participating in temple and family history service?
- Would any of you be willing to share a personal experience about finding an ancestor and taking his or her name to the temple?
- How does your mission on earth include your family on both sides of the veil?
- Once you’ve found a name yourself, will you help someone else do the same?

Resources

<https://www.lds.org/topics/family-history/leader-resources>

For Leaders

“The blessings to those who participate in family history are far reaching.”

“**The most important thing for leaders** to do is to find your own names to take to the temple yourself and then teach others to do the same” (emphasis added).

L. Whitney Clayton, “Blessings to the Living through Family History,” RootsTech 2015



THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS



Strengthening Eternal Family Bonds through Temple Service

HASTENING THE WORK OF SALVATION

FIND

TAKE

TEACH

From the Prophet

“I believe [the Lord] is hastening His work in the spirit world....

“There are millions upon millions of spirit children of our Heavenly Father who never heard the name of Christ before dying and going into the spirit world. But now they have been taught the gospel and are awaiting the day when you and I will do the research necessary to clear the way so that we can go into the house of the Lord and perform for them the work that they themselves cannot perform.

“My brothers and sisters, I testify that the Lord will bless us as we accept and respond to this challenge.”

Thomas S. Monson, “Hastening the Work,” *Ensign or Liahona*, June 2014, 4–5

“When members of the Church find the names of their ancestors and take those names to the temple for ordinance work, the temple experience can be greatly enriched....

“We pray that the spirit of this sacred work will increase in the hearts of all members of the Church.”

First Presidency letter, Oct. 8, 2012

Blessings to the Living

“While temple and family history work has the power to bless those beyond the veil, it has an equal power to bless the living. It has a refining influence on those who are engaged in it. They are literally helping to exalt their families.”

Russell M. Nelson, “Generations Linked in Love,” *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2010, 93

“Your patriarchal blessing, with its declaration of lineage, will.... 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.”

David A. Bednar, “The Hearts of the Children Shall Turn,” *Ensign or Liahona*, Nov. 2011, 26–27

“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, 4–5

“You can experience true delight on the Sabbath from family history work. Searching for and finding family members who have preceded you on earth—those who did not have an opportunity to accept the gospel while here—can bring immense joy.”

Russell M. Nelson, “The Sabbath Is a Delight,” *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2015, 131

Addressing Some Common Concerns

“My work is all done. I can’t find anyone who needs temple ordinances.”

- More than a million new searchable names are being added every day to FamilySearch.org.
- Record hints on FamilySearch.org can help you find these family members.

“These records—and there are millions of them—will help you find more ancestors who may not yet be connected to your family and who need ordinances performed for them in temples.

“There are more records from around the world with hinting technology on websites such as Ancestry.com, findmypast.com, and MyHeritage.com, which all Church members can now access for free.”

Quentin L. Cook, “Our Father’s Plan Is about Families,” RootsTech 2015

“I can’t do it. It’s too complicated.”

- It’s not as hard as you’ve heard. FamilySearch.org is easier to use than ever.
- This work can now be done in the comfort of your own home using a mobile device.
- Immediate help is available by phone 24/7 and online at FamilySearch.org. Or you can contact your local family history consultants.

“We go forward remembering this scripture: ‘By small and simple things are great things brought to pass; and small means in many instances doth confound the wise ... and [bring] about the salvation of many souls’ (Alma 37:6–7). With God nothing shall be impossible—one precious person, one distinct son or daughter at a time.”

Neil L. Andersen, “Is Anything Too Hard for the Lord?” RootsTech 2015

“I just don’t have the time.”

- Look for small ways to participate. You don’t need a lot of time.
- Redeeming our ancestors is one of the divinely appointed responsibilities we have as members of the Church (see Handbook 2, 2.2). We become saviors on Mount Zion for them through our participation in this glorious work.

“You all live busy lives.... Did you ever think that while you’re raising your children or caring for a parent that you’re actually creating family history? What you are doing is good. You are putting an eternal puzzle together piece by piece, receiving an inspired thought here and acting upon it, and then receiving a gentle nudge there and acting upon it.”

Linda K. Burton, “Small and Simple Things,” RootsTech 2015

Three Simple Steps

During general conference training on October 3, 2014, three simple steps for temple and family history work were presented:

1. Using FamilySearch.org or the *My Family: Stories That Bring Us Together* booklet, **find** the names of one or more of your own ancestors or their descendants.
2. **Take** these names to the temple, or share them with others so they can take them to the temple. (When possible, do this as a family.)
3. **Teach** your family to find names and take them to the temple, and then teach others to do the same.