

## **LESSON 40** *by Dennis Roberts*

### **Finding Joy in Temple and Family History Work**

(Objective: encourage members to do temple & family history work )

#### **Welcome**

What would you do if a close family member came up missing?

#### **1- The Spirit of Elijah prompts people to do work for dead**

- a. What is the Spirit of Elijah?
- b. What does the Spirit of Elijah prompt us to do?
- c. *Supplement #1 President Gordon B. Hinckley*

#### **2- Each member can participate in work for dead**

- a. What can we do to be more spiritually refined?
- b. *Supplement #2 President Boyd K. Packer*
- c. *Supplement #3 Elder Dallin H. Oaks*
- d. How can we participate in family history work?
  - 1} **Carry current temple recommend & attend temple**  
*Supplement #4 President Gordon B. Hinckley*
  - 2} **Prepare to have ordinances performed for relatives**  
What is the process to prepare names for temple work?  
*Supplement #5 Elder Richard G. Scott*
  - 3} **Learn about ancestor's lives**  
What can we do to preserve family history?
  - 4} **Keep a journal / Personal history / Family history**  
How can journal keeping bless individuals & families?

#### **3- Church provides many resources to help us do work**

- a. What church resources are available to help us?  
*A Member's Guide to Temple and Family History Work*  
Family history forms ([ldscatalog.org](http://ldscatalog.org))  
Computer programs (Personal Ancestral File-PAF)  
Information on the Internet ([www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org))  
Family History Centers (in our stake house)
- b. What church resources have we used recently?

#### **How does this apply to me?**

In order to complete any assignment, we need: 1) clear instructions; 2) the necessary tools; 3) sufficient time; and 4) a willing heart. Numbers 1 and 2 have been supplied by the church. The rest must come from us.

#### **Next Lesson**

Lesson 41 / Study Guide page 21 / Every Member a Missionary

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## **LESSON 40 SUPPLEMENTS** *by Dennis Roberts*

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**SUPPLEMENT #1**            **President Gordon B. Hinckley**  
“All of our vast family history endeavor is directed to temple work. There is no other purpose for it. The temple ordinances become the crowning blessings the Church has to offer”  
(Gen Conf April 1988)

**SUPPLEMENT #2**            **President Boyd K. Packer**  
“No work is more of a protection to this church than temple work and the genealogical research that supports it. No work is more spiritually refining. No work we do gives us more power”  
(“The Holy Temple,” *Ensign*, Feb. 1995, 36).

**SUPPLEMENT #3**            **President Dallin H. Oaks**  
“In the work of redeeming the dead there are many tasks to be performed, and ... all members should participate by prayerfully selecting those ways that fit their personal circumstances at a particular time. ... Our effort is not to compel everyone to do everything, but to encourage everyone to do something”  
(“Family History: ‘In Wisdom and Order,’ ” *Ensign*, June 1989, 6).

**SUPPLEMENT #4**            **President Gordon B. Hinckley**  
“I urge our people everywhere, with all of the persuasiveness of which I am capable, to live worthy to hold a temple recommend, to secure one and regard it as a precious asset, and to make a greater effort to go to the house of the Lord and partake of the spirit and the blessings to be had therein. I am satisfied that every man or woman who goes to the temple in a spirit of sincerity and faith leaves the house of the Lord a better man or woman. There is need for constant improvement in all of our lives. There is need occasionally to leave the noise and the tumult of the world and step within the walls of a sacred house of God, there to feel His spirit in an environment of holiness and peace”  
(in Conference Report, Oct. 1995, 72; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 53).

**SUPPLEMENT #5**            **Elder Richard G. Scott**  
“Arrange to participate for deceased ancestors in the sealing and other ordinances. ... I find it helpful when receiving ordinances for another to try and relate to that person specifically. I think of him and pray that he will accept the ordinance and benefit from it. Do these things with a prayer in your heart that the Holy Spirit will enhance your understanding and enrich your life. Those worthy prayers will be answered”  
(in Conference Report, Apr. 1999, 33; or *Ensign*, May 1999, 27).

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## Finding Joy in Temple and Family History Work

(Objective: encourage members to do temple & family history work )

### Welcome

What would you do if a close family member came up missing? ----- What are we willing to do for missing ancestors?

More Stuff #3

### 1- The Spirit of Elijah prompts people to do work for dead

- a. What is the Spirit of Elijah? ----- Turn hearts of children to fathers restored through Elijah to Joseph
- b. What does the Spirit of Elijah prompt us to do? ----- Genealogy
- c. *Supplement #1 President Gordon B. Hinckley* ----- *This is our ultimate goal on earth!!*

More Stuff #4

### 2- Each member can participate in work for dead

- a. What can we do to be more spiritually refined? ----- Isn't this a goal all of us have?
- b. *Supplement #2 President Boyd K. Packer* ----- *Don't we all feel a need for more spiritual power?*
- c. *Supplement #3 Elder Dallin H. Oaks* ----- *We don't need to do everything, but we do need to do something*

HP award banquet in IF  
As much as Joe Green?  
Hilda King story?

d. How can we participate in family history work?

#### 1) Carry current temple recommend & attend temple

*Supplement #4 President Gordon B. Hinckley* ----- *Crowning step after all we have done*

More Stuff #1, #5

#### 2) Prepare to have ordinances performed for relatives

What is the process to prepare names for temple work? ----- Ask ward family history person / Go to Church web site

*Supplement #5 Elder Richard G. Scott* ----- *read more stuff # \_\_\_\_\_*

#### 3) Learn about ancestor's lives

What can we do to preserve family history? ----- Ask members for ideas

More Stuff #2

#### 4) Keep a journal / Personal history / Family history

How can journal keeping bless individuals & families? ----- Show one of mine and ask someone to pick a date / show other journals

More Stuff #8

### 3- Church provides many resources to help us do work

- a. What church resources are available to help us?  
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 Family History Centers (in our stake house)
- b. What church resources have we used recently?

I was overwhelmed with the many stories of genealogy work I read as I prepared for this lesson. Shanna and I determined that we can do more and will do more.

More Stuff #11

### How does this apply to me?

In order to complete any assignment, we need: 1) clear instructions; 2) the necessary tools; 3) sufficient time; and 4) a willing heart. Numbers 1 and 2 have been supplied by the church. The rest must come from us.

### Next Lesson