

Outline of Basic Family History Lessons

By Liz Snow

Week One-

Lesson 1- My Role as a Member &

Lesson 2- Gathering Information

Week Two-

Lesson 3- PAF

Week Three-

Lesson 4- More PAF

Week Four-

Lesson 5- Finding LDS Ordinances-Internet IGI

Week Five-

Lesson 6- TempleReady- Update My Records

Week Six

Lesson 7- Temple Ready-Submitting Names for the
Temple

Lesson 1-

My Role As a Member - In Family History Work-

Begin by giving each class member a copy of

“A Members Guide to Temple and Family History Work”

then have them follow along and read-

Introduction page iv (paragraphs one through five)

page 2 (paragraphs one through four in first column and the whole second column)

WHAT IS A MEMBER’S ROLE?

- 1- To receive their own temple ordinances and help immediate family members receive them.
- 2- Hold a current temple recommend and go to the temple regularly.
- 3- Participate in Family History work.
 - a- Identify your ancestors
 - b-Prayerfully find out who needs temple ordinances performed
 - c- Make certain these ordinances are performed

Members should identify their kindred dead, request temple ordinances if needed and provide these ordinances by proxy if possible.

“As a beginning, members should try to identify three to five generations of their ancestors.....

Members should be considerate of the feelings of close family members when submitting names of recently deceased relatives.”

Church Handbook of Instruction. p.262

“Our effort is not to compel everyone to do everything, but to encourage everyone to do something.” **Elder Dallin H. Oaks**

“The Lord never asks the impossible.....Begin where you are... Don’t try to do everything at once.....Prayerfully determine what you should do for your ancestors...”**Elder David B. Haight**

“All of our vast family history endeavor is directed to temple work. There is no other purpose for it.” **April Conference 1998 President Gordon B. Hinckley**

“Each of us can play a vital role in providing ordinances for the dead. We can identify those who have died and see that temple ordinances are performed in their behalf. As we serve those who wait in the spirit world, we can come to know the blessing of assisting the Savior in the great work of salvation.”

A Members Guide to Temple and Family History Work

Resources to help the member in their role:

Family History Consultants-ward and stake
Family History Centers and staff
Distribution Center
FamilySearch internet site
Temple

Additional Scriptures and Quotes:

See pg. 18 in *A Members Guide to Temple and Family History Work*

TEACHER NOTE: I give both Lesson One and Two on the first week.

(Everything below is a handout which is attached to Lesson One.) If you give your class members a copy of the lesson, they can use it for FHE.

Family History Class Survey

Name _____

1. I have _____ generations filled out on a pedigree chart with all the dates and places.
2. I have _____ generations filled out on a pedigree chart with all the temple ordinances completed and verified.
3. Do you have PAF on your home computer?
Which version?
4. Do you know how to use PAF?
No knowledge Beginning knowledge Advanced knowledge
5. Do you have a 4 generation chart displayed in your home?

Glossary of Family History Terms

Ancestral File, FamilySearch

A computer file containing names and often other vital information (such as date and place of birth, marriage, or death) of millions of individuals who have lived throughout the world. Names are organized into family groups and pedigrees. To allow for coordination of research, the file also lists names and addresses of those who contributed to the file. Ancestral File, which was created by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is available at Family History Centers and on the Internet.

Ancestral File number (AFN)

A number used to identify each record in Ancestral File. It is comprised of numbers and letters.

Family Group Sheet-

Family group records are used to list all members of an ancestor's family along with information such as dates and places of births, marriages, and ordinances.

Family Group Records Collection

A collection of about eight million family group records that were created by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is divided into two sections: the Archive Section and the Patron Section.

Family History Library Catalog, Family Search (FHLC)

A catalog that describes the records available at the Family History Library. The catalog provides a guide to family histories; birth, marriage, and death records; census records; church registers; and many other records that may contain genealogical information. These records may be in a book, on microfiche or microfilm or in a computer file. A copy of most microfilm and microfiche records can be sent to Family History Centers. The catalog is available on the Internet, on compact disc, on microfiche.

Family History, general

The study of an individual's ancestors, descendants, or both. Also called genealogy.

Family History, written

A recorded account of the events occurring in one or more generations of a family.

FamilySearch

A term that refers to a collection created by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints that help people learn about their ancestors. Family Search products currently include (1) a DOS-based version that includes Ancestral File, International Genealogical Index, Military Index, Social Security Death Index, Scottish Church Records, Personal Ancestral File, and the Family History Library Catalog, and (2) a search service on the World Wide Web found at www.familysearch.org that helps people find and share family history information.

GEDCOM

An abbreviation for Genealogical Data Communication. GEDCOM is a computer data format that allows the information in your data file to be shared by different computers and computer programs without having to retype the data.

IGI

An abbreviation for the **International Genealogical Index** which contains millions of names of deceased persons from around the world, and new names are added periodically. It lists birth and marriage information. It also gives the sources of the information. Many of the names come from original birth and marriage records from the early 1500s to 1875. Other names were submitted by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The index is available on computer as part of the Family Search and on microfiche.

The index identifies only the parents or spouse of a person. It does not show family members linked together for generations in pedigrees or family groups as does Ancestral File.

Military Index, FamilySearch

A computer file of individuals in the United States military service who died or were declared dead in Korea or Vietnam (Southeast Asia) from 1950 to 1975. The file, which was created by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is available on compact disc.

Ordinance Index, FamilySearch

A computer file that lists several hundred million names of **deceased** persons from throughout the world. It used the data from the International Genealogical Index for displaying information. In addition to displaying all the information contained in the International Genealogical Index, it also displays Latter-day Saint ordinance information. The index, which was created by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is available on compact disc for Family History Centers or on the Internet at www.familysearch.org.

Original Source-Primary Source

A record that was created at or near the time an event took place by someone who witnessed the event. Also called original record, original document and primary source.

Pedigree Chart

A chart that show an individual's direct ancestors-parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, and so forth. A pedigree chart may contain birth, marriage, and death information.

Pedigree Resource File

A computer file that contains names; family relationships, and birth, marriage and death information for millions of people. The information in this file will appear as it was originally submitted and will not be merged with information submitted by others.

Personal Ancestral File 5.2

Personal Ancestral File (sometimes referred to as PAF) is a new Windows-based version of one of the most widely used genealogical management programs for home computers. The new software program can be downloaded free from the Internet. PAF 5.2 does not provide genealogical data. Instead, it helps users organize their family history records. It can produce, either on screen or on paper, family histories, pedigree charts, family group records and other reports to help users in their search for mission ancestors.

Temple Records Index Bureau (TIB)

A card index to Latter-day Saint temple ordinances performed between 1842 and 1970 for living and deceased individuals. The information from these records is now available in the International Genealogical Index.

TempleReady, FamilySearch

A computer program that helps members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints prepare the names of their ancestors for temple ordinances.

Scottish Church Records, FamilySearch

A computer file that is an index to the Old Parochial Registers of Scotland and a few nonconformist records. The computer file, which was created by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is available on compact disc.

Secondary source

A source of information created or compiled from original records, compiled records, or both. Secondary sources are good sources of information, but they must be evaluated for accuracy.

Social Security Death Index

A computer file that contains records of deaths reported to the United States Social Security Administration. Most records start in 1962, but the file does contain a few records of deaths that happened before that date. The computer file, which was created by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is available on compact disc.

For more definitions go to www.familysearch.org. In the right hand corner by the word feedback and help, it also says glossary.