

## Orem Park Ninth Ward

# FAMILY HISTORY CLASS

## INTRODUCTION & LESSON ONE: GATHERING RECORDS

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“Behold, I will reveal unto you the Priesthood, by the hand of Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall plant in the hearts of the children the promises made to the fathers, and the hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers. If it were not so, the whole earth would be utterly wasted at his coming.” DOCTRINE & COVENANTS 2 (by Moroni on Sept. 21, 1823, in Manchester).

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“The veil was taken from our minds, and the eyes of our understanding were opened. We saw the Lord standing upon the breastwork of the pulpit, before us; and under his feet was a paved work of pure gold, in color like amber. . . . [H]is voice was as the sound of the rushing of great waters, even the voice of Jehovah, saying: I am the first and the last; I am he who liveth, I am he who was slain; I am your advocate with the Father. . . . [T]he hearts of thousands and tens of thousands shall greatly rejoice in consequence of the blessings which shall be poured out, and the endowment with which my servants have been endowed in this house. And the fame of this house shall spread to foreign lands . . . .

“After this vision closed, the heavens were again opened unto us; and Moses appeared before us . . . . After this, Elias appeared . . . . After this vision had closed, another great and glorious vision burst upon us; for Elijah the prophet, who was taken to heaven without tasting death, stood before us, and said: Behold, the time has fully come, which was spoken of by the mouth of Malachi—testifying that he [Elijah] should be sent, before the great and dreadful day of the Lord come—To turn the hearts of fathers to the children, and the children to the fathers, lest the whole earth be smitten with a curse—Therefore, the keys of this dispensation are committed into your hands; and by this ye may know that the great and dreadful day of the Lord is near, even at the doors.” DOCTRINE & COVENANTS 110:1-4, 9-16 (in Kirtland on April 3, 1836).

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“And now, my dearly beloved brethren and sisters, let me assure you that these are principles in relation to the dead and the living that cannot be lightly passed over, as pertaining to our salvation. For their salvation is necessary and essential to our salvation, as . . . they without us cannot be made perfect—neither can we without our dead be made perfect.” DOCTRINE & COVENANTS 128:15 (from Nauvoo in 1842).

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“President Wilford Woodruff was so concerned that he made the issue a matter of fervent prayer. Then, at April 1894 general conference, he presented a revelation to the membership of the Church. From it I quote: ‘We want the Latter-day Saints from this time to trace their genealogies as far as they can, and to be sealed to their fathers and mothers. Have children sealed to their parents, and run this chain through as far as you can get it. . . . This is the will of the Lord to his people.’” Russell M. Nelson, *A New Harvest Time*, ENSIGN, May 1998, 34.

## GOALS:

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## COURSE OUTLINE

- July 9: Introduction and Gathering Records  
July 16: Organizing Records and Using the Personal Ancestral File (“PAF”)  
July 23: Research: FamilySearch, Ancestry.com, the Internet, Family History Centers, etc.  
July 30: Submitting Names to the Temple: the International Genealogical Index (“IGI”), TempleReady, and Temple Service  
Aug. 6: Name Extraction, Sharing, GEDCOMs, Diaries/Journals, and Writing Family Histories

## INFORMATION YOU SHOULD GATHER

- ★ Name: first name, middle name, and last name (“surname”); for females, *maiden names* are required
- ★ Gender
- ★ Birth (or christening) date and place
- ★ Marriage date and place
- ★ Death, burial, or cremation date and place
- ◇ Biographical information
- ◇ Religious affiliation
- ◇ Migrations
- ◇ Social and economic status, education, and occupation
- ◇ Military service
- ◇ Ethnic background
- ◇ Participation in community, organization, social, and historical events

## SAMPLE QUESTIONS

- ◇ Where was Grandpa born?
- ◇ Who were his parents?
- ◇ How many brothers and sisters did he have? What were their names? Who did they marry?
- ◇ What was Grandma’s maiden name?

## WARD FAMILY HISTORY CONSULTANTS

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