

## Family History Resources for Church Leaders

“In fulfilling its purpose to help individuals and families qualify for exaltation, the Church focuses on **divinely appointed responsibilities**. These include helping members live the gospel of Jesus Christ, gathering Israel through missionary work, caring for the poor and needy, and enabling the salvation of the dead by building temples and performing vicarious ordinances.”

Church leaders have the opportunity to use Temple and Family History resources to support them in their work of salvation for the people in their stewardship. Some examples of how these resources may be used are listed below:

<u>Opportunity Description</u>	<u>Temple and Family History Resource</u>
Pornography addiction	Indexing names for diversion
Video game addiction	Father and son shared indexing names
Catch interest of non-member	Teach eternal families and temple work
Convert retention	Help convert find a family name and do the baptism for that person
Inactive member	Challenge person to find one family name to take to the temple and then prepare to do the ordinance
Receiving welfare assistance	Perform service hours by indexing names
Strengthen testimony	Use familysearch.org to find family members who need temple ordinances done for them and then take the name to the temple
Low self esteem	Perform service for others by indexing names and feeling the spirit of helping those in need
Teaching the gospel	Encourage members to do family history research and to take family names to the temple to feel the Spirit of the Lord in their lives

<u>Opportunity Description</u>	<u>Temple and Family History Resource</u>
Protect members from Satan	Temple work is spiritually refining, gives you power, and requires a higher standard of righteousness
Teen-age temptations	Be worthy to hold a limited-use temple recommend and perform baptisms for the dead on a regular basis
Youth Trek assignment	Use familysearch.org to find the name of an ancestor who came across the plains
Homebound member	Feels the Spirit of Elijah by doing indexing from home computer
Elderly	Perform temple ordinances for the dead and feel the Spirit of service to the needy
Member without a temple recommend	Use the Family History Consultant to teach about the Church resources to find family names that need temple ordinances performed. Challenge member to be worthy to take these family names to the temple.
Share gospel topic in non threatening way	Most people have a natural interest in families. Turn the hearts of non members to their ancestors by your testimony of temple and family history work
New member	Invite the Spirit into their home by participating in indexing
Youth participate in family history	Design a project to complete a Duty to God or a Personal Progress item
Children appreciate their heritage	Have child create an artistic four-generation pedigree chart