

Personalized Discovery Experiences

May 2026

Using Family History to Joyfully Gather Israel One by One in Christ



In an interview at BYU in 2004, then Elder Christofferson defined a well run family history program as one where ward family history consultants helped people **one by one** or **family by family**, taking them where they are and helping them figure out what to do next.

The Savior ministered one by one. We can do the same by offering [Personalized Discovery Experiences](#). The work of salvation does not happen on an assembly line.

What is a Personalized Discovery Experience?

A personalized discovery experience is a guided [exploration of an individual's family tree](#) to:

- Teach easy family history involvement.
- Alleviate guilt and pressure.
- Foster a personal connection.
- Learn about ancestors.
- Identify and reserve available temple ordinances for ancestors.
- Strengthen covenant belonging.

A discovery experience is NOT an in-depth research session to unravel complex genealogical mysteries. It is NOT an invitation to do a person's research for them.

How to Facilitate a Personalized Family History Experience

To facilitate a personalized family history experience, a consultant should:

- Ask those you are helping what they want to accomplish.
- Request access to a person's family tree using this guide.
- Pray to be led by the Holy Ghost. Allow the Spirit to guide you.
- Prepare ahead of time how to help each individual or family you work with.
- Share what you have prepared in a personal setting.
- Remember that everything you do should point members to the temple.

Who Should You Teach and How Can You Find Them?

- Ward members recommended by the ward council
- Newly baptized members or members going to the temple for the first time
- 11 year olds who are preparing for their first temple experience
- Your neighbors or family
- Talk to people at church, after meetings, at the store, at the park, anywhere. . .
 - How can I help you or your family celebrate America250 with FamilySearch?

FamilySearch Center Class

We invite you to participate in a hands-on workshop
Sunday, April 26, at 5:30 sharp (come at 5:00 to set up)
at the Springville FamilySearch Center
Build a Personalized Discovery Experience



This year America is turning 250 years old! It's a great time to discover and honor your ancestors who helped shape this nation. Note: If your ancestors were more recent immigrants, no problem, this experience is easily adapted simply by giving a different prompt.

During this hands-on workshop, you will collect information from FamilySearch and paste it into a Google Doc. Then you will load the Google Doc and a prompt into NotebookLM (a free Google product) and prepare a 5-7 minute personalized video overview exploring some of **YOUR** ancestors' lives in **1776**.

Watch this [2-minute explainer video](#) to see what you will be doing.

After completing the workshop, you will be able to help others do the same in a personal setting. When members feel a connection to their ancestors, they become motivated to do their temple work. You will leave the workshop with the following:

- Your own step-by-step slide show
- Invitations you can use to invite ward members or friends to set up an appointment with you
- Instructions you can use as you help others walk through the process
- The AI prompt you will need to create the slide show

If you'd rather just watch others go through this process on Sunday and then do it on your own at home or on a different day with a personal guide at the Springville FSC, you are totally welcome to do that. Many FSC staff members on multiple shifts are trained to help with this experience.

There are only 16 computers available, so please bring a laptop if you have one.

This class will be taught again at the Springville Public Library on May 11 at 7:00.

If you have a group of 10+ people who would like an individual workshop, text 801-491-9281 or email mamadye4@gmail.com

On the **fourth Sunday** of every month, the **Springville FamilySearch center** offers classes for those with TFH callings. There is a **"TFH Basics" class at 4:00** and a **TFH Deep Dive" class at 5:30**. **This month the deeper dive class will be the workshop explained above, and we encourage you to come at 5:00 to get yourself set up for instructions..**

[TFH Leadership Classes at Springville FamilySearch Center](#)

Please get the following calendar to your ward TFH leaders and have them get them in their ward newsletters and bulletins.

[Springville FamilySearch May Calendar](#)

As you have probably heard, FamilySearch and America250 have collaborated to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. You can find more information on this site: [Discover your family's place in American history](#). There are pass-along cards available at the FamilySearch Center.

Together, we build America's story

Take the 250 Challenge
Honor your family's place in American history

How to start:

1. Download the Family Tree app
2. Sign up for a free FamilySearch account
3. Start adding names, events, and memories

Tip: Visit the Memories Gallery to see what others have added. Then tap the "+" icon to add your own stories or record a relative. Always state full names and family relationships.

2 Names
5 Events
10 Memories

Add two people to your family tree ☆☆

Add five life events (Birth, marriage, etc.) ☆☆☆☆☆

Add ten memories ☆☆☆☆☆☆

Finished the Challenge?
Scan to continue your journey of discovery.



In connection with this, we're excited to announce a partnership between the **Springville Public Library** and the **Springville FamilySearch Center**!! On Monday nights in May and June, attend fun classes and workshops at the library.



See the [Springville FamilySearch May Calendar](#) for class dates and times.

If you want a sneak peak, you can watch [Laura Dye's](#) "In the Mix in '76" explainer video.

Watch for more information about
Springville Library's America250 celebration on July 1, 2026.