

# 14. Activities

by: Heather Lytle

Malachi 4:5-6 “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.”

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints has provided activities for individuals and families to become actively engaged in both personal and family history.

In order to access the activities, you will need to create a free account at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

For the most comprehensive and exciting experience your family tree should be filled out as much as possible. The more full your tree, the more stories and activities you will be able to explore.

Once you are logged into your account you will have access to the “Activities” section which can be found:

- iPhone it’s found in the hamburger menu in the top right of my screen.
- iPad it’s found at the top center of my screen.
- Desktop computer it is found at the top of the screen.
- For other devices you might need to explore a bit to find the “Activities” option.

Let’s Explore!

Where Am I From: Learn more about where you came from.

Generations: see where your ancestors lived throughout the world.

Family Lines: follow your ancestors’ locations.

Heritage: Find out your percentage. Learn more about the

Timeline: See how many family members were living where over the years.

Famous Relatives: What famous people are you related to? Categories are at the top. For examples, look up famous Inventors and Scientists you are related to, famous actors, etc.

\*All About Me: Can be done with little information in your tree

Compare-a-Face: Take a photo of yourself to see who you resemble the most.

Try using pictures from now, and also from when you were younger.

\*Record My Story: Great for recording your personal history.

Click on a topic and record the answer to the questions. This would be a fun family activity to do with kids or teens.

Picture My Heritage: Insert a picture of your face to see what you would look like as an ancestor from a different heritage.

*“President Spencer W. Kimball said, “Our success, individually and as a Church, will largely be determined by how faithfully we focus on living the gospel in the home.” Temple and family history work is part of living the gospel at home. It should be a family activity far more than a Church activity.” Allan F. Packer*

\*In-Home Activities: This section has LOTS of activities you can do by yourself or with your family - either with a computer or without

Family Obituaries: Learn more about your family members by reading their obituaries.

Ancestor Challenge: One of my favorites. Take a quiz to see how well you recognize your ancestors.

Historical Records: This gets more involved with family history research. Some experience would be helpful.

WWI Service Records: Did you have ancestors that served?

Click on the records to learn more about ancestors who served.

A timeline below the record shows your ancestor's military service.

Learn interesting facts about the war.

*"Families are not just meant to make things run more smoothly here on earth and to be cast off when we get to heaven. Rather, they are the order of heaven. They are an echo of a celestial pattern and an emulation of God's eternal family." Dieter F. Uchtdorf*

My Ancestor's Temple: Find out what temples your ancestors were married in. This feature is for members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

My Pioneer Ancestors: (for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints)

Find out which ancestors traveled across the plains: Where they started their journey, how old they were, which Company they traveled with and how many days they traveled.

See a timeline to put their journey in perspective regarding other historical events.

*"We honor our pioneer members across the world not because they were perfect but because they overcame hardships, made sacrifices, aspired to be Christlike, and were striving to build faith and be one with the Savior. Their oneness with the Savior made them one with each other. This principle is true for you and me today." Quentin L. Cook*

Missionaries: (for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints)

Find out if you have ancestors who served a mission.

Women of Faith: (for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints)

Find records in early church history that mention your ancestors.

See a timeline showing significant church events during your ancestor's life.

Nauvoo: (for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints)

Find out if you have relatives that lived in Nauvoo during the early years of the church.

WWII Service Records: Find out if your relatives served in the war. View their records.

Joseph Smith Papers (for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints): Discover if you have relatives mentioned in the Joseph Smith Papers.

WWI Draft Card: See your relative's draft card for the war. View a timeline of their life and significant world events.

*Elder Marlin K. Jensen, who served as Church Historian and Recorder (for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) from 2005 to 2012:*

*“We keep records to help us remember. ... We desire to help Church members remember the great things God has done for His children. ... Lessons from the past help us cope with our present and give us hope for our future”  
 (“There Shall Be a Record Kept among You,” Ensign, Dec. 2007, 28, 33).*