Family History In Five Minutes a Day

DeAnn Ogden Huff



- Tax accountant with a small business
- Writer as D. Ogden Huff
- Assistant Project Manager with Ken Huff
- Mother of eight,
- Grandma to eleven
- Too busy to do family history, but ...
- Family history addict

I can find FIVE minutes a day to give to my ancestors.

- Drying my hair
- Eating breakfast
- Waiting to pick up kids
- Waiting for an appointment
- Anytime I might look at social media
- Anytime I might sit and unwind



But what can I accomplish in FIVE minutes a day?

- A LOT!
- 35 minutes a week x 52 weeks = 1820 minutes a year = more than 30 hours a year
- Remove guilt for avoiding family history
- Gain all the blessings promised to those who participate in Temple and Family History work

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What kind of blessings?

Help from the Other Side

"Brother Widtsoe reaffirmed that 'those who give themselves with all their might and mind to this [family history] work receive help from the other side. Whoever seeks to help those in the other side receives help in return in all the affairs of life'" (Boyd K. Packer, The Holy Temple, 252).

"Remember that the names which will be so difficult to find are of real people to whom you owe your existence in this world and whom you will meet again in the spirit world. ... Their hearts are bound to you. Their hope is in your hands. You will have more than your own strength as you choose to labor on to find them" (Henry B. Eyring, "Hearts Bound Together," April 2005 general conference).

Spiritual Protection

"Do you young people want a sure way to eliminate the influence of the adversary in your life? Immerse yourself in searching for your ancestors" (Richard G. Scott, "The Joy of Redeeming the Dead," Oct. 2012 general conference).

"I promise you will be protected against the intensifying influence of the adversary. As you participate in and love this holy work, you will be safeguarded in your youth and throughout your lives" (David A. Bednar, "The Hearts of the Children Shall Turn," Oct. 2011 general conference).

What kind of blessings?

Increased Testimony and Conversion

"As you respond in faith to this invitation, your hearts shall turn to the fathers....Your love and gratitude for your ancestors will increase. Your testimony of and conversion to the Savior will become deep and abiding (David A. Bednar, "The Hearts of the Children Shall Turn," Oct. 2011 general conference).

Enhanced Temple Experience

"Any work you do in the temple is time well spent, but receiving ordinances vicariously for one of your own ancestors will make the time in the temple more sacred, and even greater blessings will be received" (Richard G. Scott, "The Joy of Redeeming the Dead," October 2012 general conference).

"When members of the Church find the names of their ancestors and take those names to the temple for ordinance work, the temple experience can be greatly enriched" (First Presidency Letter, Oct. 8, 2012).

What can I do in only FIVE minutes?

• I'm SO glad you asked.





Create a **free** Family Search account

- To log in to FamilySearch, you'll need a free account. If you already have an LDS Account, you're set—LDS Account log-ins also work on FamilySearch. If you don't have an LDS Account yet, you can go directly to FamilySearch and create your account there.
- Go to FamilySearch.org, and click Free Account in the upper right corner of the page.
- Follow the three-step process to create your account. You'll be asked for your name, birthday, gender and you'll check if you are a member of the Church. **Church membership is not required.**
- If you are a member of the Church, you'll need your membership number. You can find your membership record number (MRN) on your temple recommend or in your directory listing in the LDS Tools mobile app. You can also ask a ward clerk or Church leader.
- At the end of step 3, click Create an Account.



Explore the information on your tree:

- Wander through your family tree and see who's there
- Familiarize yourself with the tree, person screens, and menus



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If your tree is bare, record what you know:

- Enter living people yourself (protects their privacy)
- Search for deceased people
- Only add people that aren't already in the Family Search Family Tree database



Learn how to use Family Search:

(Family Search is available on both computer and phone, but easiest to use on computer)

- (On your computer) After you've logged into Family Search, click on the circled question mark in the upper right hand corner.
- Click on "Getting Started: How to Do Family History."
- Read the articles and watch the short training videos.
- (On your phone) You can also watch these training videos on your phone. Go the Library app on your phone (a must have if you are a member of the Church—available on iPhone or Android). Scroll down to the bottom and click on "Temple and Family History." Click on "Getting Started" and read and watch.





On your phone, download the Family Tree app:

- Available for Android or iPhone
- Makes 5 minute Family History activities easier





Learn how to use Family Tree (only on phone):

- After you log into the Family Tree app on your phone (using your Family Search ID or LDS account ID), click on the three lines (menu icon) in the upper left hand corner.
- Scroll down and click the Help menu item
- Click the "Frequently Asked Questions" menu item
- Read the articles and learn
- Wander through the menu items.





Complete Tasks in Family Tree:

- After you log into the Family Tree app on your phone, click on the three lines (menu icon) in the upper right hand corner.
- Click the "Tasks" menu item.
- Look for the blue Record Hints icons .





When you click on the blue Record Hints icon, the first screen will appear. When you click on the suggested record (in this case a census), a summary of the record will appear. Scroll down (to see the third screen) and click the blue "Compare" button.

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(First screen) On the left is the information from the census record and on the right is the information already in Family Tree. Compare the information and see if they match. Use "Rule of Three"—if three major pieces of information match (like name, birth year and place, father's name) then trust that it's the same person. (Second screen) Click the "Add" arrow to add this record to the Family Tree person. (Third and fourth screen) Click the blue "Yes, Attach" button to attach.





(First screen) Once you attach the record, you'll have the opportunity to attach the same record to the other people in the record (see next three people).



Keep going, there are a couple more people to attach ... except there isn't a record in Family Tree for Elizabeth Philips (Third screen). Click the "Add New Person or Find a Match" box. (Fourth screen) Decide if anyone else in Family Tree matches. If not, click "No Match."



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(First and second screens) Identify how Elizabeth Philips fits into the family (relationship) then scroll down to add any additional information (third and fourth screens).





(First screen) Finally, click the "Add This Person" box to add Elizabeth Philips to Family Tree. Now the comparison screen will appear again. Add the census record and residence by clicking the "Add" buttons (third screen). Then, click the blue "Attach" button to attach the census record to Elizabeth. Congratulations! You've found a person.



When NOT to use your Family Tree app (go to Family Search on your computer instead):

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- If a record is attached to another person (It's too hard to sort it out on a tiny screen—go to your computer.) Save for when you have more than five minutes.
- Obituaries (There is too much information on obituaries to view on a phone screen—go to your computer instead.)



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Show a friend your Family Tree app:

- Double "points" if you show the app to someone who isn't a member of the Church (you get a "point" for doing family history and another "point" for missionary work).
- Triple "points" if you ask them about their ancestors and volunteer to help them get their own account (easiest missionary work ever!)





Find other ways:

- Add photos
- Record memories
- Play with the Family History Activities
- Fix place names
- Index
- The list is long!



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