The Family History Guide's Come, Follow Me Companion Lessons:

Week 47: December 2 - December 8 (reads better in the above link)

Never too late to learn about how **The Family History Guide's** weekly *Come, Follow Me Companion* lessons correlate so well with the Church's *Come, Follow Me* gospel-centered lessons. If you missed the first 46 weekly companion lessons, they can easily be retro incorporated in your weekly family history activities with the Church's *Come, Follow Me* program. These companion lessons can enrich your homecentered gospel study, while aiding your family in reaping the benefits and blessings of incorporating more family history into your lives. Feel free to explore these activities listed for each week, and find more ideas in <u>The Family History Guide Activities section</u>. You can also watch a brief video about the Companion here. You can also find family history activities for the current *Come, Follow Me* week below. To switch to a different week, click the <u>Come, Follow Me</u> Companion page. For additional learning about family history, visit the <u>Study Center</u>. For additional family history activity ideas, see The Family History Guide activities for <u>families</u>, <u>individuals</u>, <u>youth</u>, and <u>children</u>, and the <u>In-home and Online Activities</u> on FamilySearch.

Tips On How To Use The Come, Follow Me Companion Lessons

- Read the current week, but also skip around to other weeks. There are plenty of great ideas, talks, videos, and activities in each week's lesson. You may find just what you need for family history inspiration or enjoyment in another week.
- Try the full articles and videos. There are plenty of links to Conference talks and other articles that you may enjoy reading in full, and there is a great assortment of videos that can "light your family history fire."
- Share the Companion. You can send links for Companion content to family members or friends that include a week's lesson, or selected content that you enjoy. Feel free to do this through email, social media, etc.
- Personalize and customize. As you read content, seek for ways to apply it to your personal situation.
 When using any of the suggestions for activities, think about ways you might adapt them to best fit your personal or family circumstances.
- Use additional resources. Remember to use the <u>Activities</u> section in The Family History Guide for additional fun, as well as the <u>Study Center</u> for extra learning.

Sample Come, Fellow Me Companion Lesson for December 2 - December 8, Week 47

I suggest you peruse a sample lesson of how appropriate these companion lessons can bring in family history into your gospel centered *Come*, *Follow Me* lessons. Of even better, I consider you experience the entire lesson for the first week of December which is found at https://www.thefhguide.com/cfm/cfm47.html. There "Five-minute" family activity ideas can be part of the 21 Day Challenge or can be done anytime. For more ideas from a ward who did the 21-day challenge, click the picture below, or see the web version here.

This sample lesson is centered on "Rejoice with Joy Unspeakable and Full of Glory", Week 47: 1-3 John; Jude in the New Testament. It blends a mixture of great ideas, talks, videos, and activities in this lesson. The theme of the lesson is "God is light, and God is love. There are five videos in this lesson covering a variety of divine principles that incorporate family history. This includes the blessings of keeping individual journals, a family journal, creating memories for your Family Tree on FamilySearch, and/or even decorating your home with placing family history documents, stories, photos, and memorabilia on the walls of homes, on computers, on iPads, and even on cell phones which can remind individuals to make better choices and draw closer to the Lord and to families. President Nelson said. "Church members' interest in family history work is motivated by the knowledge that "ancestors cannot be made perfect without us, and we cannot be made perfect without them." If our collections of stories and photos should ever become an endpoint in themselves—if we know who our ancestors are and know marvelous things about them, but we leave them stranded on the other side without their ordinances, such diversion will not be of any help to our ancestors who remain confined in their spirit prison."

My favorite part of this companion lesson is on the "Five-minute" ideas that can be part of the 21 Day Challenge or can be done anytime. For more ideas from a ward who did the 21-day challenge, see the <u>web version here</u>. Below is an outline of these short activity ideas that are outstanding for the entire family's participation.

"Five-Minute" Temple and Family History Activity Ideas

- 1. PRAY for personal revelation to help gather Israel on both sides of the veil. Make plans as families and individuals.
- Open Family Search.org and CREATE YOUR OWN ACCOUNT if you haven't. Fill out everything you can to complete four generations! Call relatives for info. And ask the ward TFH leader and consultants to be of help.
- As a family, play 20 Questions: "I am thinking of an ancestor who..." (answer yes/no questions). You could also
 put a note on family member's backs with the name of an ancestor to guess or places they lived, etc.
- Learn about the <u>FamilySearch tree</u> features such as record hints, ID numbers, and person pages.
- Explore the new features of the Family Search FAN CHART (click "tree" on your account): birth countries, research help, photos, family lines, needed ordinances, sources, and stories.
- Find all the stories on your Family Search tree on the site <u>All The Stories</u>. This is a searchable list! One idea is to read these aloud and record them using the <u>Memories App Audio Feature</u>.
- 7. Find family names to take the Temple!! Check out "Ordinances Ready." Read how to Verify names and relationships. So many of our youth have accepted the Temple Challenge given by Elder Cook!
- 8. Watch Elder Bednar's talk The Hearts of The Children Shall Turn. What are the promises? What will you do?
- 9. Play "The Human Knot" (watch this video and this one The Family History Guide YouTube Channel).
- 10. Interview and record a family or ward Member using the <u>Memories App Audio Feature</u>. Save the stories to FamilySearch. Check out interview question ideas from the <u>52 Stories Project</u>.
- 11. Go to The Family History Guide www.thefhguide.com and explore the hundreds of ACTIVITIES "families, individuals, youth and kids corner." Check out the "no prep" activities marked with an asterisk. Here are a few of the 200+ ideas. See the index of activities here.
 - *Charades
 - Make Your Family Crest
 - Make a Podcast about Your Family
 - Practice Your Storytelling Skills
 - . *Fun with Family History Words
- Create Your Own Quiz
- *Recreate an Ancestor Photo
- *The Family History Guide Tracker
- Help Plan a Family Reunion
- Print a Chart of Your Family Tree
- Play Games Your Ancestors Did

Closing Comments

The opportunity to seamlessly and naturally incorporate family history into weekly gospel-centered *Come, Follow Me* lessons can be a game-changer for families in establishing and building a "esprit de corps" that bonds ones entire family together with a common feeling of pride, fellowship, and common loyalty that is an incredible "family roots" experience. Temple and family history endeavors are much more than just focusing on the deceased ancestors but also in developing the family unit to be a celestial family in the hereafter. There's no better time to start this transition than through the weekly *Come, Fellow Me* companion lessons for developing both spiritual and genealogical ownership for every member of your family! Family history is never a boring subject when incorporating the creative weekly family history activities in your homes on a weekly basis.