

Oral History Outline

BISHOP OR BRANCH PRESIDENT

This outline provides suggested topics to include in your oral history. Oral historians should work with narrators under the direction of the Holy Ghost to customize the direction of each oral history. If you need assistance building an outline, please contact your Church History Department representative.

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Ward or Branch

Bishopric or branch presidency

- Preparation to serve in calling
- Counselors (selection, strengths and challenges, division of labor, special experiences)

Ward (geography, ethnic, racial, tribal, gender, socioeconomic, age makeup, meeting attendance)

Men's organizations (elders quorum, high priests quorum)

Women's organizations (Relief Society and related programs, such as Gospel Literacy)

Children and Youth

- Primary (lessons, music, Sacrament Meeting presentation, activities)
- Issues facing youth
- *Children and Youth* program
- Young Men
- Young Women (Personal Progress)
- Seminary and Institute
- Returned missionaries
- Dating and marriage opportunities

Church Welfare

- Socio-economic factors (poverty or wealth, drug and alcohol abuse, child or spouse abuse, crime, class, access to education, and race or ethnicity)
- Requests for assistance
- Education and employment
- Partnering with Relief Society
- Special experiences and stories

Church history

Family History

- Ward and branch family history plan
- Adults and youth working together
- Special experiences

Temple

- Temple recommends
- Sacrifices to travel to the temple
- Temple trips
- Blessings from temple attendance
- Temple construction and dedication

Oral History Outline: Bishop or Branch President

Ward or Branch (cont.)

Living the gospel

- *Come, Follow Me* curriculum
- Ministering (home and visiting teaching)
- Accepting callings
- Education
 - Self-reliance program
 - Perpetual Education Fund
- Social activities and local traditions
- Response to local challenges (political events, disasters, pandemic, and so on)

Missionary Work

- Missionaries serving from your ward or branch
- Ward or branch missionary work
 - Member involvement
 - Use of full-time missionaries
- Converts
 - Ethnic, racial, gender, socioeconomic makeup
 - Challenges and blessings with integration, fellowshiping, and retention
 - Special experiences

Changes in the Church in your area

- Levels of Church activity
- People leaving the Church
- People moving away or emigrating

Relationship with Church members

- Working with female leaders
- Ministering to youth and children
- Ministering to the one
- Special experiences
- Successes
- Challenges

Conclusion

Impact of your calling in your life

Transformative experiences

Testimony
